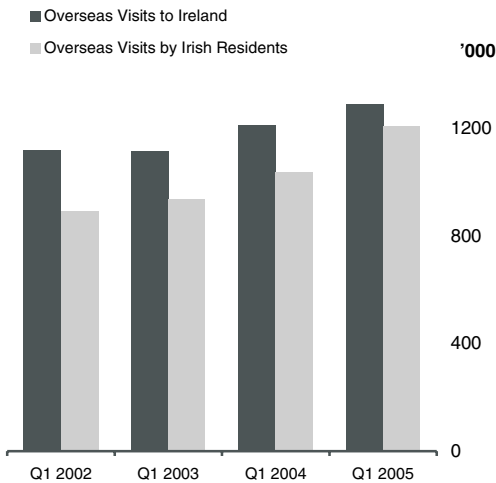




Tourism and Travel

Quarter 1 2005

Number of Visits



	Visits to Ireland '000	Irish Visits Abroad '000
Jan-Mar 2002	1,121	891
Jan-Mar 2003	1,118	939
Jan-Mar 2004	1,212	1,039
Jan-Mar 2005	1,290	1,208

Number of Irish Visits Abroad increases by 16% on Quarter 1 2004

Irish residents made 1,208,000 Visits Abroad in the First Quarter of 2005 compared with 1,039,000 in the same period in 2004, an increase of 16%. See *Table 9(a), Table 9(b) and Graph.*

Irish residents travelling abroad on Continental European routes grew by 24% compared with the First Quarter in 2004, while the number travelling on Air Cross-Channel routes grew by 8%. The number of Irish residents travelling on Transatlantic routes in the First Quarter of 2005 was 32% higher than in the same period of 2004. See *Table 9(a), Table 9(b) and Graph.*

There were 1,290,000 Overseas Visits to Ireland in the first three months of 2005 compared with 1,212,000 in the first quarter of 2004, an increase of 6%. See *Table 1(a), Table 1(b) and Graph.*

The number of Overseas Visits to Ireland by residents of Great Britain grew by 3% while the number of Visits by residents of North America fell by 11% on the same quarter in 2004. The number of Visits by residents of Other European Countries increased by 33% on the First Quarter of 2004. The number of First Quarter Overseas Visits to Ireland by residents of Other Areas fell from 53,000 in 2004 to 49,000 in 2005. See *Table 1(a), Table 1(b) and Graph.*

The expenditure figures for January – March 2005 show a net outflow of €145m, earnings from Visitors to Ireland accounted for €711m while expenditure by Irish Visitors Abroad amounted to €857m. See *Table 15.*

The Tourism figures in this release also show that:

- ◆ The number of Bednights spent in Guest House/B&B's fell by 19% in the First Quarter of 2005 when compared to the same period in 2004. The number of Bednights spent in Hotels increased by 6%. See *Table 6.*
- ◆ The Average Length of Stay of Overseas Visits to Ireland with at least one overnight fell from 6.5 nights in Q1 2004 to 6.4 nights in Q1 2005. See *Table 5.*

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Table 1 (a) Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Estimated Number of Overseas Visits Classified by Route of Travel, Area of Residence and Reason for Journey

	'000					
Visits	2004	2004				2005
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total Overseas Visits	6,574	1,212	1,762	2,173	1,428	1,290
Route of Travel						
Air Cross-Channel	3,413	743	861	967	841	767
Sea Cross-Channel	1,192	136	358	512	186	151
Continental European	1,408	229	393	502	285	287
Transatlantic	561	103	150	192	116	86
Area of Residence						
Great Britain	3,681	745	945	1,151	839	767
Other Europe	1,600	241	453	584	322	321
USA & Canada	977	173	275	333	196	154
Other Areas	317	53	89	105	70	49
Reason for Journey						
Business	926	246	203	225	252	237
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,413	514	994	1,310	595	533
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,807	351	443	506	507	414
Other	429	101	122	132	74	106

Table 1 (b) Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Estimated Number of Overseas Visits Classified by Route of Travel, Area of Residence and Reason for Journey (Quarter 1)

'000				
Visits	Jan - Mar			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Overseas Visits	1,121	1,118	1,212	1,290
Route of Travel				
Air Cross-Channel	668	673	743	767
Sea Cross-Channel	193	152	136	151
Continental European	184	203	229	287
Transatlantic	75	89	103	86
Area of Residence				
Great Britain	731	707	745	767
Other Europe	212	233	241	321
USA & Canada	134	141	173	154
Other Areas	45	37	53	49
Reason for Journey				
Business	226	199	246	237
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	485	500	514	533
Visit to Friends/Relatives	330	343	351	414
Other	80	76	101	106

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

'000						
Visits	2004	2004				2005
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total Overseas Visits	6,574	1,212	1,762	2,173	1,428	1,290
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	349	78	73	96	103	66
Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	6,225	1,134	1,689	2,077	1,325	1,224

Table 3 Overseas Same-Day Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, Jan - Mar 2005

'000

Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Total Same-Day Visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	34	17	11	4	66
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	29	14	7	2	52
Other Europe	4	2	2	1	10
USA & Canada	1	1	1	1	4
Other Areas	1	0	0	-	1

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, Jan - Mar 2005

'000

Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	203	516	404	101	1,224
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	97	317	257	44	715
Other Europe	82	95	89	46	312
USA & Canada	16	84	39	10	150
Other Areas	8	20	18	2	48

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					
Length of Stay	2004	2004				2005
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	7.5	6.5	7.3	8.5	7.0	6.4
Route of Travel						
Air Cross-Channel	5.7	5.2	5.8	6.3	5.2	5.1
Sea Cross-Channel	7.7	6.3	7.1	9.0	6.8	7.4
Continental European	10.5	9.8	9.6	11.2	11.0	8.9
Transatlantic	9.9	8.0	9.7	11.2	10.0	8.3
Area of Residence						
Great Britain	5.0	4.2	4.9	6.1	4.3	4.2
Other Europe	10.5	9.6	10.0	11.3	10.5	9.5
USA & Canada	9.3	8.1	9.5	9.7	9.5	8.1
Other Areas	14.0	16.1	11.3	15.4	13.7	14.9
Reason for Journey						
Business	5.4	4.8	4.7	6.2	5.8	5.1
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	7.0	5.2	6.9	8.3	6.1	5.6
Visit to Friends/Relatives	7.9	7.4	7.0	9.0	8.1	7.8
Other	13.6	13.7	15.4	12.9	11.4	7.8

Table 6 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents with at least one overnight in Ireland - Number of Bednights Classified by Type of Accommodation used

	'000					
Bednights	2004	2004				2005
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Accommodation	46,604	7,312	12,275	17,729	9,288	7,875
Hotel	10,663	1,697	2,977	3,867	2,121	1,807
Guest house/B&B	6,979	747	2,150	3,031	1,051	602
Rented house/Apartment	8,818	1,383	2,588	3,047	1,800	1,688
Caravan/Camping	970	3	256	676	35	15
Hostel	1,624	319	514	502	289	248
Friends/Relatives	13,031	2,529	2,855	4,392	3,255	2,909
Other	4,519	634	935	2,214	737	606

Table 7 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	2004				2005
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Great Britain	16,986	2,872	4,354	6,514	3,246	2,998
Hotel	4,034	810	1,021	1,311	892	824
Guest house/B&B	1,891	203	598	796	294	188
Rented house/Apartment	3,012	354	822	1,475	361	357
Caravan/Camping	334	2	96	219	17	4
Hostel	255	76	88	46	45	43
Friends/Relatives	6,615	1,268	1,527	2,370	1,450	1,405
Other	845	159	202	297	187	177
Other Europe	16,481	2,260	4,410	6,517	3,293	2,950
Hotel	2,795	355	825	1,156	459	462
Guest house/B&B	2,930	316	844	1,384	387	232
Rented house/Apartment	3,806	677	1,174	1,083	872	947
Caravan/Camping	573	0	154	402	17	11
Hostel	822	109	235	325	152	132
Friends/Relatives	3,186	513	670	911	1,091	822
Other	2,369	290	508	1,256	315	344
USA & Canada	8,790	1,358	2,525	3,105	1,803	1,219
Hotel	3,199	452	949	1,169	629	417
Guest house/B&B	1,692	190	557	661	284	131
Rented house/Apartment	1,167	176	355	315	321	199
Caravan/Camping	21	1	3	16	1	1
Hostel	315	72	117	80	46	50
Friends/Relatives	1,713	406	354	535	418	373
Other	683	61	190	329	104	48
Other Areas	4,348	822	986	1,592	946	709
Hotel	635	80	182	231	141	104
Guest house/B&B	466	38	152	191	86	50
Rented house/Apartment	833	176	237	174	245	186
Caravan/Camping	42	0	2	39	1	0
Hostel	233	62	74	51	46	23
Friends/Relatives	1,517	342	304	575	296	310
Other	622	124	35	331	131	36

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 and Reason for Journey, Jan - Mar 2005

Bednights	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Accommodation Used	1,033	2,911	3,140	792	7,875
Hotel	545	976	158	128	1,807
Guest house/B&B	58	390	115	39	602
Rented house/Apartment	297	783	388	221	1,688
Caravan/Camping	0	13	2	0	15
Hostel	4	166	26	52	248
Friends/Relatives	78	372	2,296	163	2,909
Other	51	211	155	189	606

Table 9 (a) Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Number of Visits Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey

'000						
Visits	2004	2004				2005
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total Overseas Visits	5,409	1,039	1,431	1,749	1,190	1,208
Route of Travel						
Air Cross-Channel	1,982	485	485	514	498	526
Sea Cross-Channel	384	65	103	138	78	73
Continental European	2,735	432	773	1,006	524	534
Transatlantic	309	57	70	92	90	75
Reason for Journey						
Business	671	160	178	168	166	168
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,081	523	837	1,105	616	618
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,296	280	336	356	324	316
Other	361	76	80	120	85	106

Table 9 (b) Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Number of Visits Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey (Quarter 1)

'000				
Visits	Jan - Mar			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Overseas Visits	891	939	1,039	1,208
Route of Travel				
Air Cross-Channel	432	428	485	526
Sea Cross-Channel	71	72	65	73
Continental European	340	391	432	534
Transatlantic	48	47	57	75
Reason for Journey				
Business	139	140	160	168
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	455	500	523	618
Visit to Friends/Relatives	238	250	280	316
Other	59	49	76	106

Table 10 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents distinguishing Same-Day Visits

	'000					
Visits	2004	2004				2005
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total Overseas Visits	5,409	1,039	1,431	1,749	1,190	1,208
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)	195	30	54	60	50	45
Visits with at least one overnight abroad	5,212	1,007	1,376	1,689	1,140	1,163

Table 11 Overseas Same-Day Visits by Irish Residents - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey

	'000					
Visits	2004	2004				2005
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total Overseas Visits	195	30	54	60	50	45
Route of Travel						
Air Cross-Channel	105	21	29	25	31	30
Sea Cross-Channel	55	6	14	23	12	10
Continental European	30	3	10	11	6	4
Transatlantic	4	1	1	1	1	2
Reason for Journey						
Business	77	17	20	19	20	16
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	67	7	21	25	13	18
Visit to Friends/Relatives	35	5	8	9	12	7
Other	17	1	5	7	4	4

Table 12 Overseas Same-Day Visits by Irish Residents - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, Jan - Mar 2005

'000					
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Total Same-Day Visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)	16	18	7	4	45
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	12	11	4	2	30
Sea Cross-Channel	2	5	2	1	10
Continental European	1	1	2	1	4
Transatlantic	1	1	0	0	2

Table 13 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents, with at least one overnight abroad - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, Jan - Mar 2005

'000					
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Total Visits with at least one overnight abroad	153	600	307	102	1,163
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	82	202	188	25	496
Sea Cross-Channel	10	17	34	2	63
Continental European	53	338	67	72	530
Transatlantic	8	43	19	3	73

Table 14 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents with at least one overnight abroad - Estimated Average Length of Stay (Nights) - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey

Length of Stay	Nights					
	2004	2004				2005
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	
All Overseas Visits	8.5	7.7	7.9	10.3	7.4	7.6
Route of Travel						
Air Cross-Channel	8.4	7.9	7.9	10.4	7.5	7.5
Sea Cross-Channel	8.4	5.5	9.3	9.3	8.2	6.2
Continental European	8.0	7.2	7.3	9.6	6.5	7.4
Transatlantic	14.3	12.1	12.2	19.7	11.7	10.0
Reason for Journey						
Business	6.3	5.7	5.5	7.8	6.3	5.3
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	8.7	7.6	7.9	10.6	7.6	7.0
Visit to Friends/Relatives	8.8	8.9	8.6	9.9	7.6	9.1
Other	9.6	7.6	9.4	12.6	7.5	9.7

Table 15 Tourism and Travel Estimated Earnings and Expenditure

€ million

Period	Earnings from all Visits to Ireland ¹	Expenditure by all Irish Visitors abroad ²	Balance ³
1999 Year	3,115	2,465	+650
2000 Year	3,637	2,804	+832
2001 Year	3,935	3,224	+711
2002 Year	3,989	3,952	+37
2003 Year	4,057	4,158	-101
2004 Year ⁴	4,068	4,175	-108
1999 January – March	481	424	+57
April – June	847	663	+185
July – September	1,141	891	+250
October – December	645	486	+157
2000 January – March	554	441	+113
April – June	984	732	+252
July – September	1,345	1,060	+284
October – December	754	571	+183
2001 January – March	625	512	+113
April – June	1,058	861	+197
July – September	1,453	1,203	+251
October – December	798	649	+150
2002 January – March	664	649	+15
April – June	1,082	976	+106
July – September	1,416	1,491	-75
October – December	828	837	-9
2003 January – March	641	739	-98
April – June	1,059	1,071	-12
July – September	1,495	1,536	-41
October – December	861	811	+50
2004 January – March ⁴	675	768	-93
April – June ⁴	1,113	1,048	+65
July – September ⁴	1,427	1,521	-93
October – December ⁴	852	839	+13
2005 January – March	711	857	-145

¹ Expenditure (excluding international fares) plus passenger fare receipts of Irish carriers from visitors to Ireland² Expenditure (including international fares) less passenger fare payments by Irish visitors abroad to Irish carriers³ + = Net inflow - = Net outflow⁴ Revised

Background Notes

Introduction This quarterly series gives details on the number of overseas visits to Ireland and Irish visits abroad for the quarter. It includes data on the reason for journey, average length of stay (nights) and expenditure. The quarterly series supplements the annual release, which provides more extensive annual information on tourism and travel.

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 The Central Statistics Office carries out two sample surveys of passengers, the Country of Residence Survey and the Passenger Card Inquiry. The results of these surveys 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 airports 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 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 of the Country of Residence Survey in Quarter 1 2005 was almost 112,000 passengers.

The Passenger Card Inquiry is a continuous sample survey of incoming and departing passengers at airports 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 visit estimates from the Country of Residence Survey to provide the overseas tourism and travel estimates shown in this release. The sample size of the Passenger Card Inquiry in Quarter 1 2005 was almost 90,000 passengers.