

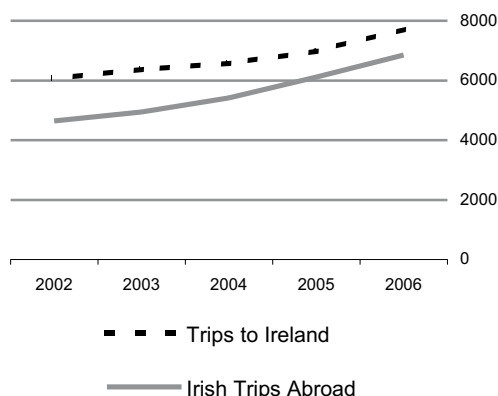


**Central Statistics Office**  
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

20 February 2007

## Overseas Travel Jan - Dec

000's



## Overseas Travel December 2006

	Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland	by Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
<b>Dec '04</b>	348,200	436,200	261,600	100,600	51,600	22,400
<b>Dec '05</b>	400,500	497,700	294,500	139,100	43,600	20,600
<b>Dec '06</b>	449,700	558,700	309,700	173,800	51,900	23,300
<b>Jan-Dec '04</b>	5,417,800	6,574,500	3,680,600	1,600,200	976,700	317,100
<b>Jan-Dec '05</b>	6,112,900	6,977,700	3,824,700	1,912,000	950,800	290,100
<b>Jan-Dec '06</b>	6,848,100	7,709,000	4,059,800	2,280,700	1,054,600	313,800

### Trips to Ireland up 61,000

In December 2006 there were 558,700 Overseas Trips to Ireland, compared with 497,700 in December 2005, an increase of 61,000. *See Tables 1 and 2.*

There were 449,700 Overseas Trips by Irish Residents in December 2006 compared with 400,500 in December 2005, an increase of 49,200. *See Tables 1 and 2.*

The breakdown of visitors to Ireland by Area of Residence, compared with December 2005, shows the following:

- ◆ The number of visitors from Great Britain increased by 15,200 in the twelfth month of 2006. *See Table 2.*
- ◆ The number of visitors from Other European countries increased by 34,700 in December 2006. *See Table 2.*
- ◆ Trips to Ireland by residents of North America grew by 8,300 while trips from Other Areas increased by 2,700. *See Table 2.*

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Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

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Ref 26/2007

ISSN 1649-4997

**Table 1 Overseas Trips by Area of Residence**

				Area of Residence			
				Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
	Period	Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland				
2002	December	303,300	373,100	238,900	76,000	43,500	14,600
2003	January	293,700	334,800	214,100	65,400	41,800	13,400
	February	302,000	344,800	226,500	67,200	40,100	11,000
	March	346,300	438,100	266,100	100,000	59,600	12,400
	April	355,000	524,800	335,100	120,200	56,500	13,100
	May	443,100	584,200	332,700	142,300	90,400	18,700
	June	527,500	595,200	309,300	153,200	106,600	26,000
	July	547,300	722,800	372,000	203,600	118,700	28,500
	August	566,600	852,500	478,600	225,200	111,000	37,700
	September	483,100	611,700	343,200	145,700	94,200	28,600
	October	432,000	542,300	324,700	116,200	79,300	22,000
	November	321,000	417,500	261,200	79,100	61,200	16,000
	December	322,500	400,400	255,400	78,700	44,600	21,800
2004	January	332,900	347,200	213,900	71,500	44,000	17,800
	February	346,500	403,700	260,300	76,500	50,200	16,700
	March	361,900	461,000	271,200	92,700	78,800	18,400
	April	409,000	551,200	330,600	127,900	69,200	23,400
	May	473,600	584,700	297,200	159,200	96,300	32,000
	June	550,800	626,200	317,000	166,300	109,300	33,600
	July	618,800	754,200	362,200	234,000	121,100	36,900
	August	594,700	822,800	466,900	215,100	107,300	33,500
	September	538,400	596,000	322,000	135,300	104,300	34,300
	October	507,600	555,100	314,300	127,600	86,500	26,600
	November	335,400	436,300	263,500	93,400	58,100	21,400
	December	348,200	436,200	261,600	100,600	51,600	22,400
2005	January	374,100	378,100	232,000	87,600	41,700	16,800
	February	378,000	390,800	245,900	90,200	41,400	13,300
	March	456,100	521,700	288,800	143,700	70,800	18,400
	April	446,700	519,900	299,100	141,800	61,800	17,100
	May	566,200	602,400	310,800	175,000	92,700	23,900
	June	612,900	682,200	343,200	188,600	117,200	33,300
	July	717,600	781,200	367,000	246,600	131,900	35,800
	August	642,800	878,400	487,200	240,800	114,000	36,500
	September	602,600	648,800	344,700	171,600	101,600	31,000
	October	479,000	611,100	344,200	163,200	79,000	24,600
	November	436,300	465,400	267,300	124,100	55,000	19,000
	December	400,500	497,700	294,500	139,100	43,600	20,600
2006	January	442,300	408,400	232,000	115,800	40,100	20,500
	February	415,300	458,700	291,400	112,100	42,400	12,800
	March	488,900	522,700	296,100	145,200	67,200	14,200
	April	544,200	650,900	373,700	187,400	69,600	20,300
	May	603,700	710,700	360,500	224,300	100,700	25,200
	June	677,800	750,500	347,500	224,900	141,400	36,700
	July	778,100	839,200	392,800	266,800	140,100	39,400
	August	729,500	928,800	462,600	292,900	136,400	36,900
	September	638,500	738,400	384,700	195,600	121,000	37,100
	October	591,700	644,500	341,500	189,600	86,300	27,000
	November	488,500	497,500	267,400	152,100	57,400	20,600
	December	449,700	558,700	309,700	173,800	51,900	23,300

**Table 2 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for the Month of December**

Year	Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Change versus corresponding month of previous year (number)						
2003	19,200	27,300	16,500	2,700	1,100	7,200
2004	25,700	35,800	6,200	21,900	7,000	600
2005	52,300	61,500	32,900	38,500	-8,000	-1,800
2006	49,200	61,000	15,200	34,700	8,300	2,700
Change versus corresponding month of previous year (%)						
2003	6.3	7.3	6.9	3.6	2.5	49.3
2004	8.0	8.9	2.4	27.8	15.7	2.8
2005	15.0	14.1	12.6	38.3	-15.5	-8.0
2006	12.3	12.3	5.2	24.9	19.0	13.1

**Table 3 Overseas Trips for Year to the end of December**

Year	Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
2002	4,645,100	6,064,800	3,578,800	1,391,700	849,300	245,100
2003	4,940,100	6,369,000	3,718,900	1,496,800	904,000	249,300
2004	5,417,800	6,574,500	3,680,600	1,600,200	976,700	317,100
2005	6,112,900	6,977,700	3,824,700	1,912,000	950,800	290,100
2006	6,848,100	7,709,000	4,059,800	2,280,700	1,054,600	313,800

**Table 4 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for Year to the end of December**

Year	Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Annual change in year total (number)						
2003	295,000	304,200	140,100	105,100	54,700	4,200
2004	477,700	205,500	-38,300	103,400	72,700	67,800
2005	695,100	403,200	144,100	311,800	-25,900	-27,000
2006	735,200	731,300	235,100	368,700	103,800	23,700
Annual change in year total (%)						
2003	6.4	5.0	3.9	7.6	6.4	1.7
2004	9.7	3.2	-1.0	6.9	8.0	27.2
2005	12.8	6.1	3.9	19.5	-2.7	-8.5
2006	12.0	10.5	6.1	19.3	10.9	8.2

**Table 5 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence - 2006**

Area of Residence <sup>1</sup>	Jan-06	Feb-06	Mar-06	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Total 2006
<b>Total Overseas Trips</b>	<b>408,400</b>	<b>458,700</b>	<b>522,700</b>	<b>650,900</b>	<b>710,700</b>	<b>750,500</b>	<b>839,200</b>	<b>928,800</b>	<b>738,400</b>	<b>644,500</b>	<b>497,500</b>	<b>558,700</b>	<b>7,709,000</b>
Great Britain	232,000	291,400	296,100	373,700	360,500	347,500	392,800	462,600	384,700	341,500	267,400	309,700	4,059,800
Austria	1,900	1,100	2,400	6,400	4,800	6,000	5,700	8,600	4,900	3,700	3,700	1,200	50,300
Belgium	4,800	6,300	7,600	8,600	12,400	9,200	10,000	10,200	8,600	7,500	6,600	5,100	97,100
Czech Republic	3,000	2,000	3,000	3,500	2,200	4,900	4,700	5,300	2,600	4,700	2,900	2,900	41,600
Denmark	2,100	2,300	2,900	4,100	3,800	5,100	5,300	3,300	4,900	3,300	2,700	2,700	42,500
France	16,600	20,600	23,400	32,300	40,500	36,000	40,100	51,900	29,400	23,000	21,200	22,800	357,800
Germany	15,100	17,500	23,300	36,300	44,600	46,900	50,400	55,100	44,200	39,700	23,600	25,500	422,300
Italy	11,700	13,300	17,000	16,300	25,300	21,700	35,300	46,500	15,100	16,700	13,000	17,900	249,900
Spain	12,800	10,200	12,000	13,900	16,800	18,100	28,300	26,600	14,100	16,300	11,300	19,900	200,200
Netherlands	10,100	8,700	10,800	12,600	16,900	14,300	15,800	17,900	14,000	13,600	13,100	10,400	158,100
Poland	14,400	8,900	14,600	17,700	18,400	20,200	24,600	22,400	20,700	22,400	22,700	28,600	235,600
Sweden	2,800	3,300	3,400	5,800	9,000	7,400	6,600	8,300	7,500	8,400	7,000	6,400	75,900
Baltic Countries <sup>2</sup>	5,800	5,100	5,900	6,100	5,300	6,800	7,300	6,000	4,100	6,400	4,600	8,200	71,800
Other EU 25 <sup>2</sup>	7,700	6,600	9,900	11,300	12,000	16,300	15,800	16,100	11,700	13,100	11,300	11,800	143,500
Switzerland	2,000	1,900	2,900	4,800	5,200	4,800	6,900	6,300	4,900	4,200	3,100	4,000	50,900
Other Europe <sup>2</sup>	5,200	4,300	6,000	7,700	7,300	7,100	10,100	8,500	8,900	6,600	5,400	6,300	83,400
USA	38,300	40,400	63,600	65,500	91,700	129,600	127,900	122,000	108,100	79,100	54,400	47,200	967,800
Canada	1,800	2,000	3,600	4,100	9,000	11,800	12,200	14,400	12,900	7,200	3,000	4,700	86,800
Central, South and Other Americas <sup>2</sup>	2,600	1,500	1,300	1,100	1,200	2,500	3,000	2,900	2,600	1,700	1,500	2,600	24,300
Africa <sup>2</sup>	3,800	2,600	2,500	3,200	4,100	4,900	5,700	4,300	5,900	3,900	4,400	4,000	49,000
Japan	1,200	800	1,000	1,100	1,600	1,700	2,300	3,400	2,600	1,300	1,500	1,200	19,700
Other Asia and Middle East <sup>2</sup>	5,500	4,100	4,200	6,200	5,900	9,300	10,500	8,400	6,800	6,800	6,100	7,400	81,200
Australia	6,100	3,100	4,300	6,900	10,200	15,300	14,800	13,400	16,600	11,400	6,400	6,800	115,300
New Zealand and Other Oceania <sup>2</sup>	1,400	700	1,000	1,700	2,200	3,000	3,000	4,600	2,600	1,800	800	1,400	24,300

<sup>1</sup> Country estimates are subject to high levels of sample variation, affecting the interpretation of these estimates and their trends. See Background Notes.

<sup>2</sup> See Background Notes for Countries included.

**Table 6 Overseas Trips by Area of Residence - Seasonally Adjusted**

				Area of Residence			
		Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
2002	December	431,600	516,200	297,600	120,400	76,400	18,800
2003	January	404,900	532,800	312,000	120,200	83,000	19,600
	February	393,300	517,900	300,800	123,800	74,700	18,300
	March	398,400	522,200	310,000	125,100	62,300	17,400
	April	389,400	526,400	314,500	127,200	67,200	15,100
	May	413,400	538,300	317,000	122,900	76,500	17,700
	June	419,100	497,800	290,900	117,600	74,400	20,300
	July	404,400	522,600	309,600	120,900	75,600	20,000
	August	416,600	548,300	319,200	125,500	77,800	25,000
	September	398,900	531,200	303,700	134,300	76,300	21,800
	October	422,000	537,500	306,000	134,500	76,800	22,000
	November	438,800	546,300	316,800	123,400	86,100	21,100
	December	452,600	554,100	318,400	124,900	77,700	27,300
2004	January	451,600	547,200	308,900	130,600	86,000	26,200
	February	452,400	606,400	346,100	139,600	93,300	27,500
	March	417,100	545,900	314,400	113,800	82,600	25,900
	April	451,100	552,700	310,300	135,200	82,400	27,100
	May	441,600	537,800	282,400	136,900	81,300	30,300
	June	437,200	525,400	298,800	128,500	76,700	26,300
	July	457,300	547,800	302,200	139,400	77,500	25,900
	August	436,000	530,500	311,100	120,800	75,600	22,100
	September	448,400	518,200	285,700	124,900	84,400	26,500
	October	496,700	550,200	298,000	146,200	83,300	26,600
	November	459,700	569,100	318,200	146,400	81,300	27,900
	December	484,700	603,200	325,800	159,800	89,700	27,900
2005	January	503,500	593,400	334,100	159,300	80,900	24,700
	February	494,500	587,100	327,300	163,900	76,600	21,800
	March	522,000	616,100	333,500	175,400	74,600	26,000
	April	500,900	521,700	282,000	149,900	75,600	21,600
	May	521,300	556,500	303,000	150,400	77,900	23,500
	June	491,700	573,500	319,500	148,800	82,300	25,300
	July	525,600	569,300	308,400	147,400	85,000	25,300
	August	480,700	569,000	321,100	139,800	81,600	24,600
	September	507,800	574,800	318,400	151,900	81,200	23,900
	October	477,300	600,200	330,400	179,500	75,900	24,100
	November	596,100	598,300	320,100	188,700	74,700	24,100
	December	538,600	661,200	353,200	209,300	75,600	23,700
2006	January	576,500	624,200	325,300	204,100	75,500	28,600
	February	542,400	665,200	362,100	197,400	77,200	21,900
	March	554,900	625,100	335,500	185,900	73,000	21,100
	April	596,600	668,600	348,800	193,500	84,400	24,800
	May	557,900	662,000	358,400	190,900	84,400	24,300
	June	551,700	644,400	334,300	182,900	97,500	27,500
	July	564,100	615,200	335,300	164,300	88,800	27,600
	August	560,900	611,800	308,700	177,600	96,200	25,700
	September	548,800	662,800	358,100	184,000	94,300	28,100
	October	568,900	636,300	329,800	200,900	84,600	26,600
	November	636,000	640,900	323,900	223,300	80,900	25,900
	December	609,300	713,400	356,900	238,600	87,700	26,400

## Background Notes

<b>Periodicity</b>	Monthly.
<b>Scope</b>	Overseas Travel.
<b>Coverage</b>	All Overseas Travel into and out of Republic of Ireland.
<b>Data Collection</b>	The survey is conducted at Dublin, Cork, Shannon, Knock and Kerry airports and Rosslare, Ringaskiddy, Dún Laoghaire and Dublin ports. Information is collected via interview.
<b>Sample Design</b>	<p>A sample of flights and sailings is selected for surveying. This selection is done in such a way as to ensure proper representation of airport/port pairing, day and night and weekday and weekend flights/sailings.</p> <p>On these flights/sailings, a 1 in 5 systematic sample of passengers is selected and their country of residence is recorded.</p> <p>Sample results are grossed up to total passenger numbers travelling for each airport or port pairing, as provided by the airports and ferry companies.</p> <p>Where there was no coverage in a survey month for an airport/port pairing, results are imputed on the basis of 'nearest neighbour'.</p>
<b>Sample Size</b>	The sample size in the December 2006 Country of Residence Survey was just over 41,700 passengers.
<b>Reliability of Results</b>	<p>In 2004 the total number of persons sampled for the Country of Residence Survey (CRS) was almost 585,000. The total number of journeys was almost 23,985,000 giving an average sampling rate of 2.4%.</p> <p>Estimation of survey results from data relating to a sample of 20% of passengers for a sample of flights/sailings introduces a statistical variability which would not be present if <i>all</i> passengers from <i>every</i> flight/sailing had been interviewed. This means that the survey results cannot be taken as accurate to the full degree shown in this report.</p> <p>The variability is expressed by means of a standard error. This standard error gives the relative size of the 'sampling error' (variability) present in an estimate compared with the estimate itself. In general, estimates can be said to have a relative precision of twice their standard error.</p> <p>The effect of sampling error is relatively greater for small estimates and may, in particular, make it more difficult to compare figures for different time periods. The following table gives estimates of the standard error for the major Area of Residence categories. The more detailed country figures in Table 5 are subject to higher standard errors, as a percentage of the estimate.</p>

	Irish Trips Abroad	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Total trips	5,417,800	3,680,600	1,600,200	976,700	317,100
Standard error	10,300	8,400	6,800	4,700	3,700
Standard error as % of estimate	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	1.2

In general, the more detailed the classification provided the greater the standard error of the estimates. In the derivation of the results, the assumption was made that non-respondents had similar characteristics and activity levels to those respondents in the same stratification cell. This assumption, which is a standard one in surveys such as this, may have resulted in some slight bias being introduced into the results. Moreover, although every effort was made to ensure that the information received during interview was correct in all respects it is inevitable that some minor non-sampling errors remained undetected.

### Seasonal Adjustment

Visitor numbers to Ireland are subject to a high degree of seasonality. These seasonal fluctuations do not affect annual comparisons but they do affect monthly or quarterly comparisons. Typically trips are at their highest during the summer months, although there are also clear peaks around Christmas and Easter. To facilitate interpretation of underlying trends visitor numbers are adjusted to remove these seasonal trends.

The seasonal adjustment method used is the X-11 Arima (Auto-regressive Integrated Moving Average) variant of the US Bureau of the Census X-11 seasonal adjustment model. Each individual series is adjusted separately to capture the different seasonal patterns exhibited by each visiting group. Seasonal factors are calculated and applied concurrently to each series. Once a year, in January, seasonal factors for the full series will be calculated and applied.

The X-11 Arima variant requires at least 5 years data. The present seasonally adjusted series are based on seasonal patterns from January 2000 to date. The duration is just sufficient for seasonal adjustment; the process will improve as the series is extended.

## Definitions

### Trips

Eurostat methodology defines a Visitor as 'any person travelling to a place other than that of his/her usual environment for less than twelve months and whose main purpose of trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited'. However, as the Country of Residence Survey does not establish the reason for an individual's trip or length of stay, those travelling for reason of remuneration or for more than one year to this country cannot be excluded. Therefore, for the purposes of this survey, 'Trips' includes those travelling for remuneration in Ireland. Commercial Drivers travelling on sea routes are excluded.

### Country of Residence

Country of Residence is defined as the country in which a person has resided during the past year.

## COUNTRY BREAKDOWNS

### Other Europe Tables 1-4

Other Europe in these tables includes the following Countries:

EU 25 i.e.

Austria	Latvia
Belgium	Lithuania
Cyprus	Luxembourg
Czech Republic	Malta
Denmark	Netherlands
Estonia	Poland
Finland	Portugal
France	Slovakia
Germany	Slovenia
Greece	Spain
Hungary	Sweden
Italy	

Switzerland

Other Europe (see page 8 for breakdown of countries)

<b>North America Tables 1-4</b>	North America in these tables includes the following Countries:	
	United States	
	Canada	
<b>Other Areas Tables 1-4</b>	Other Areas in these tables includes the following Countries:	
	Africa (see page 9 for breakdown of countries)	
	Australia	
	Japan	
	Central, South and Other Americas (see below for breakdown of countries)	
	Other Asia and Middle East (see page 10 for breakdown of countries)	
	New Zealand and Oceania (see page 10 for breakdown of countries)	
<b>Baltic Countries Table 5</b>	Baltic Countries includes the following Countries:	
	Estonia	
	Latvia	
	Lithuania	
<b>Other EU 25 Table 5</b>	Other EU 25 includes the following Countries:	
	Cyprus	Malta
	Finland	Portugal
	Greece	Slovakia
	Hungary	Slovenia
	Luxembourg	
<b>Other Europe Table 5</b>	Other Europe includes the following Countries:	
	Albania	Jersey
	Andorra	Liechtenstein
	Armenia	Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of
	Azerbaijan	Moldova, Republic of
	Belarus	Monaco
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Norway
	Bulgaria	Romania
	Croatia	Russian Federation
	Faroe Islands	San Marino
	Georgia	Turkey
	Gibraltar	Ukraine
	Guernsey	Vatican City
	Iceland	Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of
	Isle of Man	
<b>Central, South and Other Americas Table 5</b>	Central, South and Other Americas includes the following Countries:	
	Anguilla	Guyana
	Antigua and Barbuda	Haiti
	Argentina	Honduras
	Aruba	Jamaica
	Bahamas	Martinique
	Barbados	Mexico
	Belize	Montserrat
	Bermuda	Netherlands Antilles
	Bolivia	Nicaragua
	Brazil	Panama
	Cayman Islands	Paraguay
	Chile	Peru



Colombia	Puerto Rico
Costa Rica	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Cuba	Saint Lucia
Dominica	Saint Pierre and Miquelon
Dominican Republic	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Ecuador	Suriname
El Salvador	Trinidad and Tobago
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	Turks and Caicos Islands
French Guiana	Uruguay
Greenland	Venezuela
Grenada	Virgin Islands, British
Guadeloupe	Virgin Islands, US
Guatemala	

**Africa**  
**Table 5**

Africa includes the following Countries:

Algeria	Malawi
Angola	Mali
Benin	Mauritania
Botswana	Mauritius
Burkina Faso	Mayotte
Burundi	Morocco
Cameroon	Mozambique
Cape Verde	Namibia
Central African Republic	Niger
Chad	Nigeria
Comoros	Reunion
Congo	Rwanda
Congo, The Democratic Republic of the	Saint Helena
Cote d'Ivoire	Sao Tome and Principe
Djibouti	Senegal
Egypt	Seychelles
Equatorial Guinea	Sierra Leone
Eritrea	Somalia
Ethiopia	South Africa
Gabon	Sudan
Gambia	Swaziland
Ghana	Tanzania, United Republic of
Guinea	Togo
Guinea-Bissau	Tunisia
Kenya	Uganda
Lesotho	Western Sahara
Liberia	Zambia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Zimbabwe
Madagascar	

**Other Asia and  
Middle East  
Table 5**

Other Asia and Middle East includes the following Countries:

Afghanistan	Macao
Bahrain	Malaysia
Bangladesh	Maldives
Bhutan	Mongolia
British Indian Ocean Territory	Myanmar
Brunei Darussalam	Nepal
Cambodia	Oman
China	Pakistan
East Timor	Palestinian Territory, Occupied
Hong Kong	Philippines
India	Qatar
Indonesia	Saudi Arabia
Iran, Islamic Republic of	Singapore
Iraq	Sri Lanka
Israel	Syrian Arab Republic
Jordan	Taiwan, Province of China
Kazakhstan	Tajikistan
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	Thailand
Korea, Republic of	Turkmenistan
Kuwait	United Arab Emirates
Kyrgyzstan	Uzbekistan
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Viet Nam
Lebanon	Yemen

**New Zealand and  
Other Oceania  
Table 5**

New Zealand and Other Oceania includes the following Countries:

American Samoa	Niue
Antarctica	Norfolk Island
Bouvet Island	Northern Mariana Islands
Christmas Island	Palau
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Papua New Guinea
Cook Islands	Pitcairn
Fiji	Samoa
French Polynesia	Solomon Islands
French Southern Territories	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
Guam	Svalbard and Jan Mayen
Heard Island and McDonald Islands	Tokelau
Kiribati	Tonga
Marshall Islands	Tuvalu
Micronesia, Federated States of	United States Minor Outlying Islands
Nauru	Vanuatu
New Caledonia	Wallis and Futuna
New Zealand	