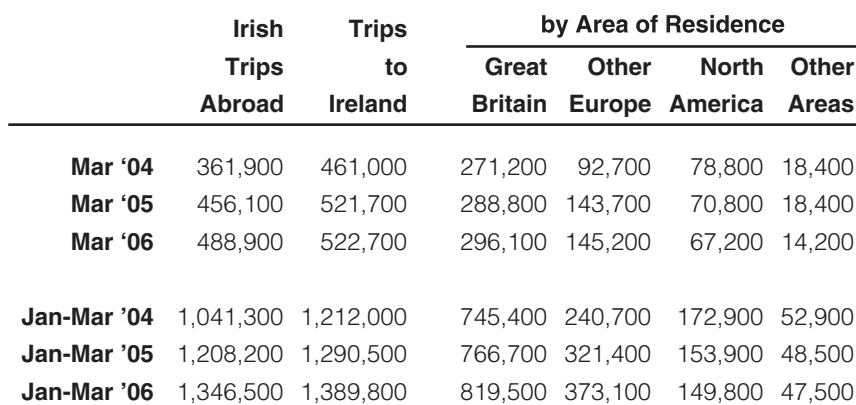




Overseas Travel

March 2006



There were 488,900 Overseas Trips by Irish Residents in March 2006 compared with 456,100 in March 2005, an increase of 32,800. *See Tables 1 and 2.*

In March 2006 there were 522,700 Overseas Trips to Ireland, compared with 521,700 in March 2005, an increase of 1,000. *See Tables 1 and 2.*

The breakdown of visitors to Ireland by Area of Residence shows the following:

- ◆ The number of visitors from Great Britain, in the third month of 2006, grew by 7,300.
- ◆ The number of visitors from Other European countries grew by 1,500 in March 2006.
- ◆ Trips to Ireland by residents of North America fell by 3,600, while the number of visitors from Other Areas fell by 4,200, compared with March 2005. *See Table 2.*

For more information, contact Niall O'Hanlon at 021-4535207.

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Ardee Road	Skehard Road
Dublin 6	Cork
Ireland	Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)
0870 8760256 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353-1 498 4000 Tel: +353-21 453 5000
Fax: +353-1 498 4229 Fax: +353-21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: www.cso.ie
and go to
Business Sectors: Tourism and Travel

Director General: Donal Garvey

Enquiries:

Tourism Statistics Tourism and Travel Section, ext 5207
 Queries and Sales Information Section, ext 5032
 information@cs0.ie

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Table 1 Overseas Trips by Area of Residence

			Area of Residence				
		Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
2002	Period						
	March	347,900	461,300	290,400	88,900	66,100	15,900
	April	322,000	460,300	277,700	103,400	61,000	18,200
	May	406,900	549,800	319,900	131,500	79,100	19,200
	June	482,100	602,600	318,600	158,800	99,900	25,300
	July	523,900	682,700	355,000	190,900	107,700	29,100
	August	553,700	768,800	423,900	210,400	103,300	31,100
	September	479,800	593,300	352,700	125,100	90,100	25,400
	October	395,700	520,800	317,700	102,800	79,000	21,300
	November	284,600	392,200	243,900	80,200	51,800	16,300
	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

Table 2 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for the Month of March

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	-1,600	-23,200	-24,300	11,100	-6,500	-3,500
2004	15,600	22,900	5,100	-7,300	19,200	6,000
2005	94,200	60,700	17,600	51,000	-8,000	0
2006	32,800	1,000	7,300	1,500	-3,600	-4,200
Change versus corresponding month of previous year (%)						
2003	-0.5	-5.0	-8.4	12.5	-9.8	-22.0
2004	4.5	5.2	1.9	-7.3	32.2	48.4
2005	26.0	13.2	6.5	55.0	-10.2	0.0
2006	7.2	0.2	2.5	1.0	-5.1	-22.8

Table 3 Overseas Trips for Year to Date to the end of March

Year	Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
2002	893,000	1,121,200	730,300	212,500	133,900	44,500
2003	942,000	1,117,700	706,700	232,600	141,500	36,900
2004	1,041,300	1,212,000	745,400	240,700	172,900	52,900
2005	1,208,200	1,290,500	766,700	321,400	153,900	48,500
2006	1,346,500	1,389,800	819,500	373,100	149,800	47,500

Table 4 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for Year to Date to the end of March

Year	Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Annual change in year to date total (number)						
2003	49,000	-3,500	-23,600	20,100	7,600	-7,600
2004	99,300	94,300	38,700	8,100	31,400	16,000
2005	166,900	78,500	21,300	80,700	-19,000	-4,400
2006	138,300	99,300	52,800	51,700	-4,100	-1,000
Annual change in year to date total (%)						
2003	5.5	-0.3	-3.2	9.5	5.7	-17.1
2004	10.5	8.4	5.5	3.5	22.2	43.4
2005	16.0	6.5	2.9	33.5	-11.0	-8.3
2006	11.4	7.7	6.9	16.1	-2.7	-2.1

Table 5 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence 2005 - 2006

Area of Residence ¹	2005	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 Overseas Trips	6,977,700	408,400	458,700	522,700									
Great Britain	3,824,700	232,000	291,400	296,100									
Austria	38,400	1,900	1,100	2,400									
Belgium	86,000	4,800	6,300	7,600									
Czech Republic	35,400	3,000	2,000	3,000									
Denmark	38,800	2,100	2,300	2,900									
France	306,100	16,600	20,600	23,400									
Germany	404,300	15,100	17,500	23,300									
Italy	192,000	11,700	13,300	17,000									
Spain	169,900	12,800	10,200	12,000									
Netherlands	157,700	10,100	8,700	10,800									
Poland	127,100	14,400	8,900	14,600									
Sweden	59,600	2,800	3,300	3,400									
Baltic Countries ²	62,400	5,800	5,100	5,900									
Other EU 25 ²	114,200	7,700	6,600	9,900									
Switzerland	54,400	2,000	1,900	2,900									
Other Europe ²	66,100	5,200	4,300	6,000									
USA	870,800	38,300	40,400	63,600									
Canada	79,900	1,800	2,000	3,600									
Central, South and Other Americas ²	19,700	2,600	1,500	1,300									
Africa ²	40,400	3,800	2,600	2,500									
Japan	19,500	1,200	800	1,000									
Other Asia and Middle East ²	73,000	5,500	4,100	4,200									
Australia	112,600	6,100	3,100	4,300									
New Zealand and Other Oceania ²	25,300	1,400	700	1,000									

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

² See Background Notes for Countries included

Table 6 Overseas Trips by Area of Residence - Seasonally Adjusted

				Area of Residence			
				Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
	Period	Irish Trips Abroad	Trips to Ireland				
2002	March	398,900	554,400	340,600	113,600	69,100	22,400
	April	350,200	461,900	260,300	109,600	72,800	20,900
	May	380,700	508,500	306,000	114,600	67,000	18,100
	June	384,100	502,200	298,900	120,600	69,000	19,600
	July	386,800	490,200	294,500	112,900	68,300	20,500
	August	409,200	492,700	282,900	115,700	72,000	20,700
	September	391,100	514,000	310,800	115,300	72,900	19,100
	October	384,900	516,400	296,800	120,700	77,100	21,100
	November	388,000	516,300	298,100	124,000	73,500	21,900
	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

Background Notes

Periodicity	Monthly.
Scope	Overseas Travel.
Coverage	All Overseas Travel into and out of Republic of Ireland.
Data Collection	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.
Sample Design	<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>
Sample Size	The sample size in the March 2006 Country of Residence Survey was just over 50,000 passengers.
Reliability of Results	<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)

North America Tables 1-4	North America in these tables includes the following Countries:	
	United States	
	Canada	
Other Areas Tables 1-4	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)	
Baltic Countries Table 5	Baltic Countries includes the following Countries:	
	Estonia	
	Latvia	
	Lithuania	
Other EU 25 Table 5	Other EU 25 includes the following Countries:	
	Cyprus	Malta
	Finland	Portugal
	Greece	Slovakia
	Hungary	Slovenia
	Luxembourg	
Other Europe Table 5	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	
Central, South and Other Americas Table 5	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	