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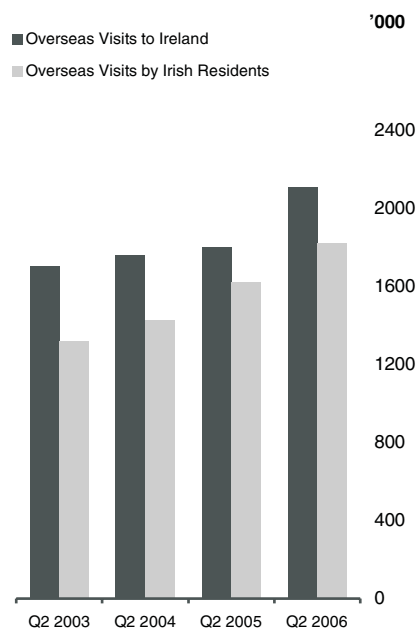
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

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## Tourism and Travel

### Quarter 2 2006

#### Number of Visits



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	Visits to Ireland '000	Irish Visits Abroad '000
Apr - Jun 2003	1,704	1,323
Apr - Jun 2004	1,762	1,431
Apr - Jun 2005	1,803	1,626
Apr - Jun 2006	2,112	1,826

#### Visits to Ireland up 17% in Q2 2006

There were 2,112,000 Overseas Visits to Ireland in the Second Quarter of 2006 compared with 1,803,000 in the same period of 2005, an increase of 17%. Visits by residents of Great Britain grew by 14% while the number of Overseas Visits by residents of Other European Countries grew by 26%. Overseas Visits by residents of the USA and Canada grew by 15% and those made by residents of Other Areas rose from 74,000 in Q2 2005 to 82,000 in Q2 2006. *See Table 1(a), Table 1(b) and Graph.*

The number of Irish Visits abroad between April and June 2006 was 1,826,000, an increase of 12% on the corresponding period in 2005. Trips abroad on Continental routes grew by 22% however, trips on Air Cross-Channel routes decreased by 1%. There was an increase of 6% in the number travelling abroad on Sea Cross-Channel routes compared with Q2 2005. *See Table 9(a), Table 9(b) and Graph.*

The expenditure figures for April - June 2006 show a net outflow of €81m. Earnings from Visits to Ireland accounted for €1,230m while expenditure by Irish Visitors Abroad amounted to €1,311m. *See Table 15.*

The Tourism figures in this release also show that:

- ◆ Overseas visits to Ireland on Continental European routes in the Second Quarter of 2006 increased by 31% on the corresponding Quarter of 2005. *See Tables 1(a) and 1(b).*
- ◆ The number of Bednights spent Visiting Friends/Relatives by Overseas Visitors to Ireland increased by 24% in the Second Quarter of 2006 when compared to the same period in 2005. Bednights spent in Guest house/B&Bs by inward visitors recorded a rise of 14% on Q2 2005. *See Table 6.*
- ◆ The Average Length of Stay of Overseas Visits to Ireland with at least one overnight grew from 7.1 nights in Q2 2005 to 7.3 nights in Q2 2006. This compares with a decrease in the Average Length of Stay of Overseas Visits by Irish residents, with at least one overnight from 7.0 nights to 6.9 nights. *See Tables 5 and 14.*

*For more information, contact Niall O'Hanlon at 021-453 5207.*

**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
	2005	2005				2006	
Visits		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Total Overseas Visits	6,977	1,290	1,803	2,308	1,574	1,390	2,112
Route of Travel							
Air Cross-Channel	3,595	767	876	1,055	897	839	1,029
Sea Cross-Channel	1,085	151	297	467	170	116	289
Continental European	1,705	287	462	561	395	338	607
Transatlantic	592	86	169	224	112	96	188
Area of Residence							
Great Britain	3,822	767	953	1,196	906	820	1,082
Other Europe	1,917	321	504	662	428	373	637
USA & Canada	953	154	272	350	178	150	312
Other Areas	285	49	74	100	62	47	82
Reason for Journey							
Business	967	237	248	229	252	247	251
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,428	533	971	1,313	611	570	1,145
Visit to Friends/Relatives	2,125	414	474	616	620	469	566
Other	457	106	111	149	91	103	151

**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 2)**

						'000
						Apr - Jun
Visits	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>1,613</b>	<b>1,704</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>1,803</b>	<b>2,112</b>	
<b>Route of Travel</b>						
Air Cross-Channel	762	826	861	876	1,029	
Sea Cross-Channel	390	362	358	297	289	
Continental European	332	355	393	462	607	
Transatlantic	129	161	150	169	188	
<b>Area of Residence</b>						
Great Britain	916	977	945	953	1,082	
Other Europe	394	416	453	504	637	
USA & Canada	240	254	275	272	312	
Other Areas	63	58	89	74	82	
<b>Reason for Journey</b>						
Business	252	203	203	248	251	
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	904	955	994	971	1,145	
Visit to Friends/Relatives	383	416	443	474	566	
Other	73	130	122	111	151	

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

		'000					
	2005	2005				2006	
Visits		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>6,977</b>	<b>1,290</b>	<b>1,803</b>	<b>2,308</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>1,390</b>	<b>2,112</b>
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	367	66	85	111	104	79	108
Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	6,610	1,224	1,719	2,197	1,470	1,311	2,004

**Table 3 Overseas Same-Day Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, Apr - Jun 2006**

						'000
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total	
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other		
<b>Total Same-Day Visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>108</b>	
<b>Area of Residence</b>						
Great Britain	36	22	12	4	75	
Other Europe	5	3	2	6	17	
USA & Canada	1	7	2	4	14	
Other Areas	0	1	0	-	2	

**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, Apr - Jun 2006**

						'000
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total	
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other		
<b>Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>1,111</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>2,004</b>	
<b>Area of Residence</b>						
Great Britain	105	502	326	74	1,007	
Other Europe	74	350	145	50	620	
USA & Canada	18	216	55	8	297	
Other Areas	10	44	23	3	80	

**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	2005	2005				2006	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
<b>Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>7.3</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>							
Air Cross-Channel	5.5	5.1	5.1	6.0	5.6	5.2	4.9
Sea Cross-Channel	8.2	7.4	7.3	9.4	6.9	6.9	7.7
Continental European	10.5	8.9	9.5	11.9	11.0	9.6	10.6
Transatlantic	10.0	8.3	10.0	10.7	9.9	8.8	8.8
<b>Area of Residence</b>							
Great Britain	4.8	4.2	4.6	5.8	4.2	4.1	4.6
Other Europe	10.9	9.5	9.4	12.4	11.5	10.6	10.7
USA & Canada	9.5	8.1	9.3	9.9	10.3	8.8	8.2
Other Areas	13.4	14.9	13.5	11.8	14.7	12.5	11.0
<b>Reason for Journey</b>							
Business	5.5	5.1	4.8	6.4	5.9	5.1	3.9
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	7.1	5.6	6.8	8.3	6.1	4.9	6.8
Visit to Friends/Relatives	8.2	7.8	7.5	9.1	8.1	7.7	8.2
Other	12.2	7.8	12.7	12.4	16.6	15.3	13.1

**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	2005	2005				2006	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
<b>Accommodation</b>	<b>49,451</b>	<b>7,875</b>	<b>12,173</b>	<b>18,973</b>	<b>10,430</b>	<b>8,746</b>	<b>14,622</b>
Hotel	10,615	1,807	3,026	3,645	2,137	1,990	3,317
Guest house/B&B	6,409	602	1,882	3,009	916	629	2,149
Rented house/Apartment	9,739	1,688	2,440	3,398	2,213	1,563	3,237
Caravan/Camping	848	15	323	469	41	18	260
Hostel	1,555	248	363	647	297	285	502
Friends/Relatives	15,914	2,909	3,182	5,870	3,953	3,798	3,960
Other	4,371	606	957	1,935	873	463	1,197

							'000
Bednights	2004	2005				2006	
	2004	2005				2006	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Great Britain	16,961	2,998	4,119	6,401	3,443	3,119	4,683
Hotel	4,075	824	1,047	1,308	895	987	1,125
Guest house/B&B	1,649	188	502	715	244	207	547
Rented house/Apartment	2,320	357	692	954	318	207	908
Caravan/Camping	276	4	88	182	3	8	81
Hostel	209	43	67	66	33	28	66
Friends/Relatives	7,413	1,405	1,473	2,750	1,785	1,582	1,742
Other	1,019	177	250	426	165	100	214
Other Europe	19,981	2,950	4,666	8,079	4,285	3,823	6,626
Hotel	3,086	462	919	1,064	640	559	1,009
Guest house/B&B	2,817	232	733	1,463	390	253	974
Rented house/Apartment	5,446	947	1,214	2,027	1,258	1,085	1,876
Caravan/Camping	515	11	224	247	33	5	172
Hostel	895	132	171	405	187	163	279
Friends/Relatives	4,718	822	930	1,640	1,326	1,462	1,483
Other	2,504	344	475	1,233	451	296	833
USA & Canada	8,765	1,219	2,434	3,314	1,798	1,241	2,426
Hotel	2,984	417	930	1,129	508	331	961
Guest house/B&B	1,494	131	521	651	191	144	525
Rented house/Apartment	1,308	199	398	315	396	191	285
Caravan/Camping	11	1	2	7	1	0	3
Hostel	281	50	83	94	54	75	99
Friends/Relatives	2,199	373	419	939	468	447	451
Other	488	48	81	179	180	53	102
Other Areas	3,746	709	954	1,177	904	563	889
Hotel	471	104	130	143	94	112	222
Guest house/B&B	449	50	127	180	92	25	103
Rented house/Apartment	665	186	136	102	241	80	168
Caravan/Camping	46	0	9	33	4	5	5
Hostel	170	23	42	82	22	19	59
Friends/Relatives	1,585	310	359	540	375	308	284
Other	360	36	151	97	76	14	48

**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, Apr - Jun 2006**

					'000
Bednights	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
<b>Accommodation Used</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>7,538</b>	<b>4,508</b>	<b>1,778</b>	<b>14,622</b>
Hotel	479	2,433	244	162	3,317
Guest house/B&B	55	1,678	272	144	2,149
Rented house/Apartment	99	1,616	754	768	3,237
Caravan/Camping	1	232	25	2	260
Hostel	6	376	24	96	502
Friends/Relatives	138	631	3,066	125	3,960
Other	21	572	123	481	1,197

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

								'000
Visits	2005	2005				2006		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	
Total Overseas Visits	6,113	1,208	1,626	1,963	1,316	1,346	1,826	
Route of Travel								
Air Cross-Channel	2,215	526	588	566	535	559	581	
Sea Cross-Channel	336	73	85	118	59	54	90	
Continental European	3,205	534	874	1,183	614	656	1,067	
Transatlantic	357	75	79	95	108	77	88	
Reason for Journey								
Business	738	168	191	182	197	201	193	
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,518	618	965	1,252	684	679	1,067	
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,416	316	345	392	363	335	397	
Other	441	106	125	137	72	131	169	

**Table 9 (b) Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Number of Visits Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey (Quarter 2)**

						'000
Visits	Apr-Jun					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
Total Overseas Visits	1,208	1,323	1,431	1,626	1,826	
Route of Travel						
Air Cross-Channel	439	427	485	588	581	
Sea Cross-Channel	110	116	103	85	90	
Continental European	613	717	773	874	1,067	
Transatlantic	47	62	70	79	88	
Reason for Journey						
Business	149	161	178	191	193	
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	724	801	837	965	1,067	
Visit to Friends/Relatives	258	270	336	345	397	
Other	77	91	80	125	169	



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

'000

Visits	2005	2005				2006	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>6,113</b>	<b>1,208</b>	<b>1,626</b>	<b>1,963</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,346</b>	<b>1,826</b>
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)	195	45	39	66	45	46	52
Visits with at least one overnight abroad	5,918	1,163	1,587	1,897	1,271	1,301	1,774

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

'000

Visits	2005	2005				2006	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>							
Air Cross-Channel	113	30	23	35	25	32	32
Sea Cross-Channel	50	10	10	17	13	5	13
Continental European	30	4	5	14	7	9	6
Transatlantic	2	2	0	-	-	0	-
<b>Reason for Journey</b>							
Business	81	16	20	28	18	28	26
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	64	18	9	23	13	7	14
Visit to Friends/Relatives	39	7	9	13	10	8	10
Other	11	4	1	2	4	3	2

**Table 12 Overseas Same-Day Visits by Irish Residents - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, Apr - Jun 2006**

						'000
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total	
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other		
<b>Total Same-Day Visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>52</b>	
<b>Route of Travel</b>						
Air Cross-Channel	23	4	4	1	32	
Sea Cross-Channel	2	8	2	1	13	
Continental European	2	2	3	0	6	
Transatlantic	-	-	-	-	-	

**Table 13 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents, with at least one overnight abroad - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, Apr - Jun 2006**

						'000
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total	
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other		
<b>Total Visits with at least one overnight abroad</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>1,774</b>	
<b>Route of Travel</b>						
Air Cross-Channel	82	215	196	56	548	
Sea Cross-Channel	6	38	27	6	77	
Continental European	71	750	137	103	1,061	
Transatlantic	11	45	29	2	88	

**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**

							Nights
Length of Stay	2005	2005				2006	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
<b>All Overseas Visits</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>							
Air Cross-Channel	8.3	7.5	6.3	11.1	8.3	7.0	6.5
Sea Cross-Channel	6.5	6.2	6.5	6.7	6.6	6.7	5.9
Continental European	8.3	7.4	7.2	10.0	7.1	7.1	6.9
Transatlantic	11.7	10.0	11.2	16.7	9.0	10.1	9.4
<b>Reason for Journey</b>							
Business	6.6	5.3	6.2	8.0	6.7	5.3	6.0
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	8.4	7.0	7.0	10.9	7.2	7.1	6.9
Visit to Friends/Relatives	9.1	9.1	7.7	10.7	8.7	8.7	7.7
Other	8.8	9.7	7.1	8.8	10.7	6.5	5.8

**Table 15 Tourism and Travel Estimated Earnings and Expenditure**

€ million

Period	Earnings from all Visits to Ireland <sup>1</sup>	Expenditure by all Irish Visitors abroad <sup>2</sup>	Balance <sup>3</sup>
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	4,065	4,179	-114
2005 Year	4,272	4,773	-501
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	675	768	-93
April – June	1,113	1,048	+65
July – September	1,427	1,521	-93
October – December	850	842	+8
2005 January – March	712	876	-164
April – June	1,124	1,152	-28
July – September	1,506	1,710	-204
October – December	929	1,035	-106
2006 January – March	733	1,008	-276
April – June <sup>4</sup>	1,230	1,311	-81

<sup>1</sup> Expenditure (excluding international fares) plus passenger fare receipts of Irish carriers from visitors to Ireland<sup>2</sup> Expenditure (including international fares) less passenger fare payments by Irish visitors abroad to Irish carriers<sup>3</sup> + = Net inflow - = Net outflow<sup>4</sup> Provisional

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2 2006 was over 190,000 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 2 2006 was just under 116,000 passengers.