



# Overseas Travel

February 2007

**Jan - Feb**

000's

1000

900

800

700

600

500

2003 2004 2005 2006 2007

■ ■ ■ Trips to Ireland

— Irish Trips Overseas

Year	Trips to Ireland (000's)	Irish Trips Overseas (000's)
2003	720	600
2004	780	720
2005	820	800
2006	880	900
2007	920	1000

	Irish Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	by Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Feb '05	378,000	390,800	245,900	90,200	41,400	13,300
Feb '06	415,300	458,700	291,400	112,100	42,400	12,800
Feb '07	494,600	460,600	254,100	153,200	40,700	12,500
Jan-Feb '05	752,100	768,800	477,900	177,800	83,100	30,100
Jan-Feb '06	857,600	867,200	523,400	227,900	82,600	33,300
Jan-Feb '07	988,500	901,500	482,100	299,400	85,200	34,800

There were 494,600 Overseas Trips by Irish Residents in February 2007, compared with 415,300 in February 2006, an increase of 79,300. *See Tables 1 and 2.*

In February 2007 there were 460,600 Overseas Trips to Ireland, compared with 458,700 in February 2006, an increase of 1,900. *See Tables 1 and 2.*

The breakdown of visitors to Ireland by Area of Residence for February 2007 shows the following:

- ◆ Trips to Ireland by residents of Great Britain decreased by 37,300. *See Table 2.*
- ◆ There was an increase of 41,100 in the number of Trips to Ireland by residents of Other European countries. *See Table 2.*
- ◆ Trips to Ireland by residents of North America fell by 1,700, while trips from Other Areas fell by 300. *See Table 2.*

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

				Area of Residence			
				Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
	Period	Irish Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland				
2003	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
2007	January	493,900	440,900	228,000	146,200	44,400	22,200
	February	494,600	460,600	254,100	153,200	40,700	12,500

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

Year	Irish Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Change versus corresponding month of previous year (number)						
2004	44,500	58,900	33,800	9,300	10,100	5,700
2005	31,500	-12,900	-14,400	13,700	-8,800	-3,400
2006	37,300	67,900	45,500	21,900	1,000	-500
2007	79,300	1,900	-37,300	41,100	-1,700	-300
Change versus corresponding month of previous year (%)						
2004	14.7	17.1	14.9	13.8	25.2	51.8
2005	9.1	-3.2	-5.5	17.9	-17.5	-20.4
2006	9.9	17.4	18.5	24.3	2.4	-3.8
2007	19.1	0.4	-12.8	36.7	-4.0	-2.3

**Table 3 Overseas Trips for Year to Date to the end of February**

Year	Irish Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
2003	595,700	679,600	440,600	132,600	81,900	24,500
2004	679,400	750,900	474,200	148,000	94,100	34,500
2005	752,100	768,800	477,900	177,800	83,100	30,100
2006	857,600	867,200	523,400	227,900	82,600	33,300
2007	988,500	901,500	482,100	299,400	85,200	34,800

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

Year	Irish Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Annual change in year to date total (number)						
2004	83,700	71,300	33,600	15,400	12,200	10,000
2005	72,700	17,900	3,700	29,800	-11,000	-4,400
2006	105,500	98,400	45,500	50,100	-500	3,200
2007	130,900	34,300	-41,300	71,500	2,600	1,500
Annual change in year to date total (%)						
2004	14.1	10.5	7.6	11.6	14.9	40.8
2005	10.7	2.4	0.8	20.1	-11.7	-12.8
2006	14.0	12.8	9.5	28.2	-0.6	10.6
2007	15.3	4.0	-7.9	31.4	3.1	4.5

**Table 5 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence 2006 - 2007**

Area of Residence <sup>1</sup>	2006	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07
<b>Total Overseas Trips</b>	<b>7,709,000</b>	<b>440,900</b>	<b>460,600</b>										
Great Britain	4,059,800	228,000	254,100										
Austria	50,300	1,000	1,900										
Belgium	97,100	6,400	5,600										
Czech Republic	41,600	2,900	2,700										
Denmark	42,500	2,500	2,300										
Finland	28,400	2,500	3,100										
France	357,800	18,500	30,600										
Germany	422,300	22,500	18,600										
Hungary	26,900	2,400	1,700										
Italy	249,900	13,600	13,200										
Netherlands	158,100	8,900	9,400										
Latvia	32,100	2,700	3,000										
Lithuania	29,900	3,300	2,800										
Poland	235,600	21,100	21,500										
Portugal	29,600	1,800	1,500										
Spain	200,200	13,900	14,800										
Sweden	75,900	3,800	4,300										
Other EU 27 <sup>2</sup>	74,800	10,200	7,900										
Norway	32,600	2,900	3,100										
Switzerland	50,900	2,300	2,800										
Other Europe <sup>2</sup>	44,300	2,900	2,300										
USA	967,800	42,300	39,000										
Canada	86,800	2,100	1,700										
Central, South and Other Americas <sup>2</sup>	24,300	3,200	1,700										
South Africa	35,000	1,800	1,300										
Other Africa <sup>2</sup>	13,900	1,100	800										
Japan	19,700	1,000	500										
Eastern Asia <sup>2</sup>	20,000	2,000	1,300										
Other Asia <sup>2</sup>	39,000	3,000	2,000										
Middle East <sup>2</sup>	22,200	2,000	800										
Australia	115,300	6,900	3,300										
New Zealand and Other Oceania <sup>2</sup>	24,300	1,300	800										

<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 & changes from Jan 2007

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

				Area of Residence			
				Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
	Period	Irish Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland				
2003	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
2007	January	627,500	668,000	328,600	239,400	85,100	31,000
	February	640,800	654,400	311,700	251,600	78,700	23,000

## 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 February 2007 Country of Residence Survey was just under 32,000 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 Overseas	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 and 6

From January 2007 Other Europe includes the following Countries:

EU 27 i.e.

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

*Norway*

Switzerland

Other Europe (see page 8 for breakdown of countries)

**North America  
Tables 1- 4 and 6**

North America includes the following Countries:

United States  
Canada

**Other Areas  
Tables 1-4 and 6**

From January 2007 Other Areas includes the following Countries:

Other Africa (see page 9 for breakdown of countries)  
*South Africa*  
Australia  
Japan  
Central, South and Other Americas (see below for breakdown of countries)  
Other Asia, Middle East and Eastern Asia (see page 10 for breakdown of countries)  
New Zealand and Oceania (see page 10 for breakdown of countries)

**Other EU 27  
Table 5**

From January 2007 Other EU 27 includes the following Countries:

<i>Bulgaria</i>	Malta
Cyprus	<i>Romania</i>
<i>Estonia</i>	Slovakia
Greece	Slovenia
Luxembourg	

**Other Europe  
Table 5**

From January 2007 Other Europe includes the following Countries:

Albania	Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of
Andorra	Moldova, Republic of
Belarus	Monaco
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Russian Federation
Croatia	San Marino
Faroe Islands	Turkey
Gibraltar	Ukraine
Guernsey	Vatican City
Iceland	Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of
Isle of Man	
Jersey	
Liechtenstein	

**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	

**Other Africa**  
**Table 5**

From January 2007 Other 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	Sudan
Gabon	Swaziland
Gambia	Tanzania, United Republic of
Ghana	Togo
Guinea	Tunisia
Guinea-Bissau	Uganda
Kenya	Western Sahara
Lesotho	Zambia
Liberia	Zimbabwe
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	
Madagascar	

**Middle East  
Table 5**

From January 2007 Middle East includes the following Countries

Afghanistan	Oman
Bahrain	Palestinian Territory, Occupied
Iran, Islamic Republic of	Qatar
Iraq	Saudi Arabia
Israel	Syrian Arab Republic
Jordan	United Arab Emirates
Kuwait	Yemen
Lebanon	

**Eastern Asia  
Table 5**

From January 2007 Eastern Asia includes the following Countries:

China	Korea, Democratic People's Republic of
Hong Kong	Mongolia
Korea, Republic of	Taiwan, Province of China

**Other Asia  
Table 5**

From January 2007 Other Asia includes the following Countries:

Armenia	Malaysia
Azerbaijan	Maldives
Bangladesh	Myanmar
Bhutan	Nepal
British Indian Ocean Territory	Pakistan
Brunei Darussalam	Philippines
Cambodia	Singapore
Georgia	Sri Lanka
India	Tajikistan
Indonesia	Thailand
Kazakhstan	Timor Leste
Kyrgyzstan	Turkmenistan
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Uzbekistan
Macao	Viet Nam

**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	