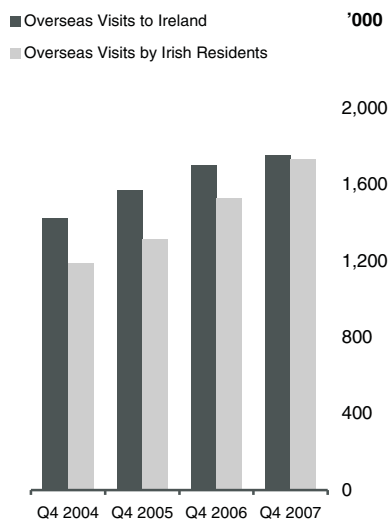




Tourism and Travel

Quarter 4 2007

Number of Visits



| | Visits to Ireland '000 | Irish Visits Abroad '000 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Oct - Dec 2004 | 1,428 | 1,190 |
| Oct - Dec 2005 | 1,574 | 1,316 |
| Oct - Dec 2006 | 1,701 | 1,530 |
| Oct - Dec 2007 | 1,756 | 1,734 |

Number of Irish Visits Abroad up 13%

The number of Irish Visits abroad from October to December 2007 was 1,734,000, an increase of 13% on the corresponding period in 2006. Overseas trips abroad on Transatlantic routes grew by 23% compared with Q4 2006 and trips on Continental European routes increased by 16%. Irish Visits abroad for reason of Holiday/Leisure/Recreation accounted for 65% of all Transatlantic trips taken. *See Tables 9(b), 13 and Graph.*

There were 1,756,000 Overseas Visits to Ireland in the Fourth Quarter of 2007 compared with 1,701,000 in the same period of 2006, an increase of 3%. The number of Overseas Visits by residents of Other European Countries grew by 8% while Overseas Visits by residents of USA and Canada grew by 6%. The number of Visits by residents of Great Britain remained almost unchanged while visits by residents of Other Areas decreased by 3% on Q4 2006. *See Table 1(b) and Graph.*

The expenditure figures for October - December 2007 show a net outflow of €373m. Earnings from Visitors to Ireland accounted for €1,024m while expenditure by Irish Visitors Abroad amounted to €1,396m. *See Table 15.*

The Tourism figures in this release also show that:

- ◆ Irish Visits abroad for the reason of Visits to Friends/Relatives grew by 16%. Overseas Visits to Ireland for the reason of Business showed an increase of 6% compared to Q4 2006. *See Tables 1(a) and 9(a).*
- ◆ There were 98,000 same-day Visits to Ireland in the Fourth Quarter of 2007, of which 76,000 were made by residents of Great Britain. In the same period, there were 41,000 Overseas same-day visits by Irish Residents. *See Tables 3 and 11.*
- ◆ The number of bednights spent on Overseas Visits to Ireland increased by 5% with the number of nights spent in hotels increasing by 14%, compared to the same period in 2006. *See Table 6.*

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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 | 2006 | 2007 ¹ | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec |
| Total Overseas Visits | 7,709 | 8,017 | 1,390 | 2,112 | 2,506 | 1,701 | 1,478 | 2,138 | 2,645 | 1,756 |
| Route of Travel | | | | | | | | | | |
| Air Cross-Channel | 3,900 | 3,755 | 839 | 1,029 | 1,120 | 912 | 767 | 985 | 1,102 | 901 |
| Sea Cross-Channel | 983 | 1,021 | 116 | 289 | 418 | 160 | 131 | 289 | 439 | 162 |
| Continental European | 2,181 | 2,577 | 338 | 607 | 730 | 506 | 491 | 670 | 854 | 562 |
| Transatlantic | 645 | 668 | 96 | 188 | 238 | 123 | 90 | 195 | 251 | 132 |
| Area of Residence | | | | | | | | | | |
| Great Britain | 4,060 | 4,036 | 820 | 1,082 | 1,240 | 919 | 771 | 1,074 | 1,269 | 922 |
| Other Europe | 2,281 | 2,592 | 373 | 637 | 755 | 516 | 496 | 665 | 873 | 558 |
| USA & Canada | 1,055 | 1,073 | 150 | 312 | 398 | 196 | 156 | 319 | 390 | 208 |
| Other Areas | 314 | 317 | 47 | 82 | 113 | 71 | 54 | 81 | 113 | 69 |
| Reason for Journey | | | | | | | | | | |
| Business | 1,100 | 1,210 | 247 | 251 | 276 | 326 | 255 | 288 | 322 | 345 |
| Holiday/Leisure/Recreation | 3,775 | 4,040 | 570 | 1,145 | 1,390 | 671 | 714 | 1,183 | 1,430 | 713 |
| Visit to Friends/Relatives | 2,323 | 2,250 | 469 | 566 | 655 | 633 | 428 | 526 | 699 | 597 |
| Other | 511 | 519 | 103 | 151 | 186 | 71 | 82 | 141 | 194 | 102 |

¹ Provisional.

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 4)

'000

| Visits | Oct - Dec | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
| Total Overseas Visits | 1,360 | 1,428 | 1,574 | 1,701 | 1,756 |
| Route of Travel | | | | | |
| Air Cross-Channel | 797 | 841 | 897 | 912 | 901 |
| Sea Cross-Channel | 208 | 186 | 170 | 160 | 162 |
| Continental European | 240 | 285 | 395 | 506 | 562 |
| Transatlantic | 115 | 116 | 112 | 123 | 132 |
| Area of Residence | | | | | |
| Great Britain | 841 | 839 | 906 | 919 | 922 |
| Other Europe | 274 | 322 | 428 | 516 | 558 |
| USA & Canada | 185 | 196 | 178 | 196 | 208 |
| Other Areas | 60 | 70 | 62 | 71 | 69 |
| Reason for Journey | | | | | |
| Business | 238 | 252 | 252 | 326 | 345 |
| Holiday/Leisure/Recreation | 613 | 595 | 611 | 671 | 713 |
| Visit to Friends/Relatives | 449 | 507 | 620 | 633 | 597 |
| Other | 60 | 74 | 91 | 71 | 102 |

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

'000

| Visits | 2006 | 2007 ¹ | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec |
| Total Overseas Visits | 7,709 | 8,017 | 1,390 | 2,112 | 2,506 | 1,701 | 1,478 | 2,138 | 2,645 | 1,756 |
| Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland) | 424 | 421 | 79 | 108 | 131 | 106 | 75 | 111 | 137 | 98 |
| Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland | 7,285 | 7,597 | 1,311 | 2,004 | 2,375 | 1,594 | 1,403 | 2,027 | 2,508 | 1,659 |

¹ Provisional.

Table 3 Overseas Same-Day Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, Oct - Dec 2007

| '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) | 58 | 20 | 13 | 7 | 98 |
| Area of Residence | | | | | |
| Great Britain | 49 | 14 | 9 | 4 | 76 |
| Other Europe | 7 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 13 |
| USA & Canada | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 7 |
| Other Areas | 0 | 1 | 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, Oct - Dec 2007

| '000 | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Visits | Reason for Journey | | | | Total |
| | Business | Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation | Visit to Friends/ Relatives | Other | |
| Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland | 287 | 693 | 584 | 95 | 1,659 |
| Area of Residence | | | | | |
| Great Britain | 149 | 329 | 320 | 47 | 845 |
| Other Europe | 101 | 218 | 189 | 36 | 545 |
| USA & Canada | 25 | 119 | 49 | 8 | 201 |
| Other Areas | 11 | 28 | 25 | 4 | 67 |

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

| Length of Stay | Nights | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | 2006 | 2007 ¹ | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
| | | | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec |
| Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland | 7.6 | 7.1 | 6.7 | 7.3 | 9.0 | 6.8 | 6.4 | 6.7 | 8.6 | 6.8 |
| Route of Travel | | | | | | | | | | |
| Air Cross-Channel | 5.1 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 4.9 | 5.6 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 4.6 | 5.3 | 4.6 |
| Sea Cross-Channel | 8.3 | 8.0 | 6.9 | 7.7 | 9.3 | 7.7 | 7.7 | 7.3 | 9.7 | 7.1 |
| Continental European | 11.1 | 9.7 | 9.6 | 10.6 | 13.3 | 9.7 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 11.6 | 9.4 |
| Transatlantic | 9.6 | 9.5 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 10.9 | 9.0 | 8.6 | 8.9 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Area of Residence | | | | | | | | | | |
| Great Britain | 4.8 | 4.6 | 4.1 | 4.6 | 5.8 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 5.8 | 4.2 |
| Other Europe | 11.2 | 9.3 | 10.6 | 10.7 | 13.3 | 9.3 | 8.3 | 8.8 | 11.6 | 8.5 |
| USA & Canada | 9.0 | 9.1 | 8.8 | 8.2 | 9.4 | 9.8 | 8.9 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 10.0 |
| Other Areas | 12.4 | 14.8 | 12.5 | 11.0 | 12.8 | 13.5 | 16.4 | 12.4 | 13.8 | 16.5 |
| Reason for Journey | | | | | | | | | | |
| Business | 4.2 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 4.1 | 5.7 | 5.8 |
| Holiday/Leisure/Recreation | 7.0 | 6.4 | 4.9 | 6.8 | 8.3 | 6.2 | 5.0 | 6.5 | 8.6 | 5.6 |
| Visit to Friends/Relatives | 8.5 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 8.2 | 10.5 | 7.2 | 8.2 | 7.5 | 8.4 | 7.5 |
| Other | 15.8 | 13.4 | 15.3 | 13.1 | 16.6 | 20.1 | 14.4 | 11.0 | 13.2 | 14.8 |

¹ Provisional.

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

| Bednights | '000 | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2006 | 2007 ¹ | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
| | | | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec |
| Accommodation | 55,615 | 55,687 | 8,746 | 14,622 | 21,459 | 10,779 | 9,042 | 13,665 | 21,652 | 11,328 |
| Hotel | 12,063 | 13,480 | 1,990 | 3,317 | 4,297 | 2,459 | 2,241 | 3,479 | 4,956 | 2,804 |
| Guest house/B&B | 6,771 | 6,027 | 629 | 2,149 | 2,853 | 1,140 | 606 | 2,032 | 2,577 | 812 |
| Rented house/Apartment | 10,654 | 10,405 | 1,563 | 3,237 | 4,043 | 1,810 | 2,022 | 2,617 | 3,537 | 2,229 |
| Caravan/Camping | 983 | 1,090 | 18 | 260 | 667 | 31 | 14 | 297 | 748 | 31 |
| Hostel | 1,835 | 1,688 | 285 | 502 | 705 | 343 | 276 | 458 | 689 | 265 |
| Friends/Relatives | 18,230 | 17,307 | 3,798 | 3,960 | 6,364 | 4,107 | 3,446 | 3,603 | 6,238 | 4,020 |
| Other | 5,079 | 5,690 | 463 | 1,197 | 2,530 | 889 | 437 | 1,179 | 2,907 | 1,167 |

¹ Provisional.

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 | 2006 | 2007 ¹ | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Great Britain | 17,895 | 17,512 | 3,119 | 4,683 | 6,693 | 3,400 | 2,833 | 4,390 | 6,707 | 3,582 |
| Hotel | 4,535 | 4,997 | 987 | 1,125 | 1,367 | 1,055 | 991 | 1,349 | 1,475 | 1,182 |
| Guest house/B&B | 1,627 | 1,555 | 207 | 547 | 654 | 218 | 212 | 475 | 665 | 203 |
| Rented house/Apartment | 2,720 | 2,415 | 207 | 908 | 1,222 | 382 | 287 | 698 | 1,197 | 233 |
| Caravan/Camping | 320 | 366 | 8 | 81 | 201 | 31 | 4 | 82 | 267 | 13 |
| Hostel | 170 | 174 | 28 | 66 | 51 | 25 | 34 | 40 | 75 | 25 |
| Friends/Relatives | 7,651 | 7,151 | 1,582 | 1,742 | 2,804 | 1,524 | 1,177 | 1,537 | 2,692 | 1,745 |
| Other | 872 | 854 | 100 | 214 | 394 | 165 | 128 | 209 | 336 | 181 |
| Other Europe | 24,902 | 24,317 | 3,823 | 6,626 | 9,799 | 4,651 | 4,047 | 5,699 | 9,959 | 4,612 |
| Hotel | 3,626 | 4,510 | 559 | 1,009 | 1,322 | 736 | 692 | 1,146 | 1,873 | 799 |
| Guest house/B&B | 3,232 | 2,584 | 253 | 974 | 1,390 | 615 | 254 | 818 | 1,171 | 341 |
| Rented house/Apartment | 6,109 | 5,706 | 1,085 | 1,876 | 2,252 | 896 | 1,258 | 1,409 | 1,637 | 1,402 |
| Caravan/Camping | 603 | 674 | 5 | 172 | 419 | 6 | 10 | 197 | 452 | 15 |
| Hostel | 1,162 | 863 | 163 | 279 | 489 | 231 | 154 | 198 | 394 | 117 |
| Friends/Relatives | 6,670 | 6,181 | 1,462 | 1,483 | 1,967 | 1,757 | 1,501 | 1,157 | 2,103 | 1,420 |
| Other | 3,500 | 3,799 | 296 | 833 | 1,960 | 410 | 178 | 774 | 2,329 | 518 |
| USA & Canada | 9,052 | 9,386 | 1,241 | 2,426 | 3,557 | 1,826 | 1,317 | 2,596 | 3,445 | 2,028 |
| Hotel | 3,167 | 3,358 | 331 | 961 | 1,342 | 533 | 444 | 853 | 1,351 | 710 |
| Guest house/B&B | 1,496 | 1,401 | 144 | 525 | 596 | 231 | 112 | 561 | 546 | 182 |
| Rented house/Apartment | 1,209 | 1,376 | 191 | 285 | 401 | 331 | 241 | 331 | 402 | 402 |
| Caravan/Camping | 18 | 47 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 29 | 2 |
| Hostel | 350 | 334 | 75 | 99 | 123 | 53 | 46 | 129 | 108 | 51 |
| Friends/Relatives | 2,261 | 2,151 | 447 | 451 | 931 | 432 | 391 | 539 | 828 | 393 |
| Other | 551 | 719 | 53 | 102 | 150 | 246 | 83 | 167 | 181 | 288 |
| Other Areas | 3,768 | 4,474 | 563 | 889 | 1,410 | 908 | 846 | 982 | 1,541 | 1,105 |
| Hotel | 735 | 618 | 112 | 222 | 267 | 135 | 115 | 132 | 257 | 114 |
| Guest house/B&B | 417 | 486 | 25 | 103 | 213 | 76 | 27 | 178 | 195 | 86 |
| Rented house/Apartment | 617 | 907 | 80 | 168 | 168 | 201 | 236 | 179 | 301 | 191 |
| Caravan/Camping | 42 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Hostel | 153 | 317 | 19 | 59 | 41 | 34 | 42 | 91 | 112 | 72 |
| Friends/Relatives | 1,647 | 1,826 | 308 | 284 | 662 | 393 | 378 | 371 | 615 | 462 |
| Other | 157 | 317 | 14 | 48 | 26 | 69 | 48 | 29 | 61 | 179 |

¹ Provisional.

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, Oct - Dec 2007

| '000 | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Bednights | Reason for Journey | | | | Total |
| | Business | Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation | Visit to Friends/ Relatives | Other | |
| Accommodation Used | 1,672 | 3,882 | 4,365 | 1,406 | 11,328 |
| Hotel | 688 | 1,718 | 254 | 144 | 2,804 |
| Guest house/B&B | 132 | 488 | 130 | 61 | 812 |
| Rented house/Apartment | 574 | 595 | 481 | 578 | 2,229 |
| Caravan/Camping | 0 | 25 | 6 | 0 | 31 |
| Hostel | 11 | 200 | 16 | 37 | 265 |
| Friends/Relatives | 85 | 479 | 3,261 | 195 | 4,020 |
| Other | 182 | 377 | 217 | 391 | 1,167 |

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

'000

| Visits | 2006 | | 2007 ¹ | | | | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2006 | 2007 ¹ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec |
| Total Overseas Visits | 6,848 | 7,713 | 1,346 | 1,826 | 2,146 | 1,530 | 1,575 | 2,048 | 2,356 | 1,734 | | | | |
| Route of Travel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Air Cross-Channel | 2,252 | 2,356 | 559 | 581 | 550 | 562 | 600 | 578 | 574 | 604 | | | | |
| Sea Cross-Channel | 341 | 335 | 54 | 90 | 129 | 68 | 53 | 99 | 108 | 75 | | | | |
| Continental European | 3,867 | 4,580 | 656 | 1,067 | 1,363 | 781 | 841 | 1,283 | 1,548 | 908 | | | | |
| Transatlantic | 387 | 441 | 77 | 88 | 104 | 119 | 81 | 88 | 126 | 146 | | | | |
| Reason for Journey | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Business | 813 | 887 | 201 | 193 | 201 | 219 | 236 | 245 | 174 | 232 | | | | |
| Holiday/Leisure/Recreation | 3,864 | 4,652 | 679 | 1,067 | 1,325 | 793 | 890 | 1,252 | 1,599 | 911 | | | | |
| Visit to Friends/Relatives | 1,648 | 1,754 | 335 | 397 | 485 | 431 | 365 | 425 | 465 | 499 | | | | |
| Other | 523 | 420 | 131 | 169 | 135 | 87 | 84 | 126 | 118 | 92 | | | | |

¹ Provisional.

Table 9 (b) Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Number of Visits Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, (Quarter 4)

'000

| Visits | Oct - Dec | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | | | |
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
| Total Overseas Visits | 1,074 | 1,190 | 1,316 | 1,530 | 1,734 |
| Route of Travel | | | | | |
| Air Cross-Channel | 494 | 498 | 535 | 562 | 604 |
| Sea Cross-Channel | 72 | 78 | 59 | 68 | 75 |
| Continental European | 438 | 524 | 614 | 781 | 908 |
| Transatlantic | 70 | 90 | 108 | 119 | 146 |
| Reason for Journey | | | | | |
| Business | 155 | 166 | 197 | 219 | 232 |
| Holiday/Leisure/Recreation | 526 | 616 | 684 | 793 | 911 |
| Visit to Friends/Relatives | 332 | 324 | 363 | 431 | 499 |
| Other | 61 | 85 | 72 | 87 | 92 |

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

'000

| Visits | 2006 | 2007 ¹ | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec |
| Total Overseas Visits | 6,848 | 7,713 | 1,346 | 1,826 | 2,146 | 1,530 | 1,575 | 2,048 | 2,356 | 1,734 |
| Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight abroad) | 191 | 205 | 46 | 52 | 51 | 42 | 59 | 50 | 55 | 41 |
| Visits with at least one overnight abroad | 6,657 | 7,508 | 1,301 | 1,774 | 2,095 | 1,488 | 1,517 | 1,998 | 2,300 | 1,693 |

¹ Provisional.**Table 11 Overseas Same-Day Visits by Irish Residents - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey**

'000

| Visits | 2006 | 2007 ¹ | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec |
| Total Overseas Visits | 191 | 205 | 46 | 52 | 51 | 42 | 59 | 50 | 55 | 41 |
| Route of Travel | | | | | | | | | | |
| Air Cross-Channel | 109 | 134 | 32 | 32 | 20 | 25 | 43 | 37 | 26 | 28 |
| Sea Cross-Channel | 37 | 30 | 5 | 13 | 13 | 6 | 5 | 10 | 11 | 4 |
| Continental European | 45 | 43 | 9 | 6 | 18 | 11 | 11 | 4 | 19 | 9 |
| Transatlantic | 0 | 1 | 0 | - | - | 0 | - | - | 0 | 1 |
| Reason for Journey | | | | | | | | | | |
| Business | 94 | 109 | 28 | 26 | 19 | 21 | 33 | 31 | 26 | 19 |
| Holiday/Leisure/Recreation | 50 | 57 | 7 | 14 | 17 | 12 | 14 | 11 | 19 | 13 |
| Visit to Friends/Relatives | 38 | 32 | 8 | 10 | 13 | 8 | 10 | 6 | 8 | 8 |
| Other | 9 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 |

¹ Provisional.

Table 12 Overseas Same-Day Visits by Irish Residents - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, Oct - Dec 2007

| '000 | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Visits | Reason for Journey | | | | Total |
| | Business | Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation | Visit to Friends/ Relatives | Other | |
| Total Same-Day Visits (i.e. no overnight abroad) | 19 | 13 | 8 | 0 | 41 |
| Route of Travel | | | | | |
| Air Cross-Channel | 17 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 28 |
| Sea Cross-Channel | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Continental European | 1 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| Transatlantic | 1 | 0 | 0 | - | 1 |

Table 13 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents, with at least one overnight abroad - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, Oct - Dec 2007

| '000 | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Visits | Reason for Journey | | | | Total |
| | Business | Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation | Visit to Friends/ Relatives | Other | |
| Total Visits with at least one overnight abroad | 209 | 898 | 494 | 91 | 1,693 |
| Route of Travel | | | | | |
| Air Cross-Channel | 106 | 201 | 236 | 34 | 577 |
| Sea Cross-Channel | 6 | 18 | 45 | 3 | 72 |
| Continental European | 88 | 584 | 176 | 51 | 900 |
| Transatlantic | 10 | 95 | 36 | 4 | 145 |

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 | 2006 | 2007 ¹ | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | | |
| | | | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sep | Oct-Dec |
| All Overseas Visits | 8.0 | 7.9 | 7.2 | 6.9 | 10.2 | 6.9 | 6.6 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 7.0 |
| Route of Travel | | | | | | | | | | |
| Air Cross-Channel | 7.5 | 8.6 | 7.0 | 6.5 | 9.7 | 7.0 | 7.3 | 7.9 | 11.9 | 7.2 |
| Sea Cross-Channel | 7.1 | 6.2 | 6.7 | 5.9 | 8.4 | 6.2 | 5.2 | 5.9 | 8.7 | 5.0 |
| Continental European | 8.0 | 7.5 | 7.1 | 6.9 | 10.0 | 6.7 | 6.0 | 7.2 | 9.9 | 6.8 |
| Transatlantic | 10.9 | 10.1 | 10.1 | 9.4 | 16.7 | 7.5 | 8.5 | 10.1 | 13.4 | 8.3 |
| Reason for Journey | | | | | | | | | | |
| Business | 6.3 | 6.3 | 5.3 | 6.0 | 8.1 | 5.7 | 5.6 | 5.7 | 8.5 | 5.2 |
| Holiday/Leisure/Recreation | 8.0 | 8.0 | 7.1 | 6.9 | 10.2 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 7.7 | 10.7 | 7.2 |
| Visit to Friends/Relatives | 9.0 | 8.3 | 8.7 | 7.7 | 11.7 | 7.3 | 7.9 | 8.2 | 10.1 | 7.1 |
| Other | 7.0 | 8.2 | 6.5 | 5.8 | 6.9 | 10.0 | 7.6 | 5.1 | 12.4 | 7.7 |

¹ Provisional.

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 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 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 |
| 2006 Year | 4,692 | 5,318 | -626 |
| 2007 Year ⁴ | 4,904 | 6,161 | -1,257 |
| 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 | 1,231 | 1,312 | -81 |
| July – September | 1,746 | 1,818 | -71 |
| October – December | 982 | 1,180 | -198 |
| 2007 January – March | 819 | 1,143 | -324 |
| April – June | 1,294 | 1,524 | -230 |
| July – September | 1,767 | 2,098 | -331 |
| October – December ⁴ | 1,024 | 1,396 | -373 |

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 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 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 4 2007 was just under 114,800 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 4 2007 was just under 73,400 passengers.