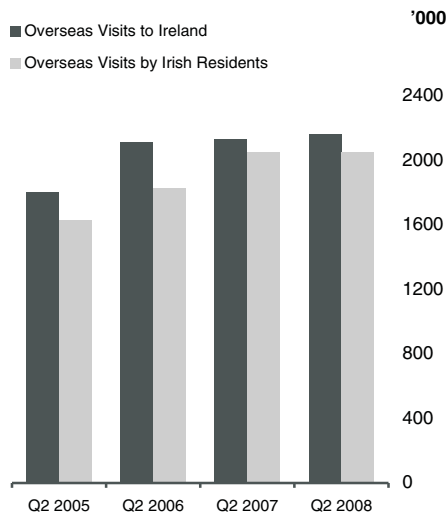




Tourism and Travel

Quarter 2 2008

Number of Visits Q2, 2005-2008



	Visits to Ireland '000	Irish Visits Abroad '000
Apr - Jun 2005	1,803	1,626
Apr - Jun 2006	2,112	1,826
Apr - Jun 2007	2,131	2,049
Apr - Jun 2008	2,159	2,051

Visits to Ireland up slightly in Q2 2008

The number of Overseas Visits to Ireland from April to June 2008 was 2,159,000, an increase of 1% on the corresponding period in 2007. In comparing Q2 2007 and Q2 2008 it should be noted that Easter occurred wholly in the first quarter in 2008. The number of Overseas Visits by residents of Great Britain decreased by 4% to 1,023,000 while visits by residents of the USA and Canada showed a fall of 2% to 312,000. On the other hand, visits by residents of Other European Countries increased by 10% to 729,000, while visits by residents of Other Areas also increased by 19% to 95,000 on Q2 2007. *See Table 1(b) and Graph.*

In Q2 2008 the number of Irish Visits abroad remained virtually unchanged at 2,051,000, compared to the corresponding period in 2007. Trips abroad on Transatlantic routes grew by just over 30% to 115,000 over the same period. Irish Visits abroad for the reason of Holiday/Leisure/Recreation accounted for 74% of all Continental European trips taken in Q2 2008. *See Tables 9(b), 12, 13 and Graph.*

Earnings from Visitors to Ireland accounted for €1,313m while expenditure by Irish Visitors Abroad amounted to €1,627m in Q2 2008, resulting in a net outflow of €315m. *See Table 15.*

The Tourism figures in this release also show that:

- ◆ Overseas Visits to Ireland for the reason of Holiday/Leisure/Recreation decreased by 5% compared to Q2 2007. Irish Visits abroad for the reason of Holiday/Leisure/Recreation fell marginally to 1,243,000. *See Tables 1(a) and 9(a).*
- ◆ The Average Length of Stay of Overseas Visits to Ireland with at least one overnight grew from 6.7 nights in Q2 2007 to 7.6 nights in Q2 2008. This compares with a decrease in the Average Length of Stay of Overseas Visits by Irish residents with at least one overnight from 7.4 nights to 7.1 nights. *See Tables 5 and 14.*

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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

Visits	'000							
	2006	2007	2007				2008	
			Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Total Overseas Visits	7,709	8,012	1,478	2,131	2,646	1,756	1,542	2,159
Route of Travel								
Air Cross-Channel	3,900	3,754	767	985	1,102	901	822	960
Sea Cross-Channel	983	1,013	131	281	439	162	141	258
Continental European	2,181	2,575	490	670	854	562	480	756
Transatlantic	645	669	90	195	252	132	99	184
Area of Residence								
Great Britain	4,060	4,032	771	1,070	1,269	922	849	1,023
Other Europe	2,281	2,590	496	662	874	558	480	729
USA & Canada	1,055	1,073	156	319	390	208	156	312
Other Areas	314	317	54	80	113	69	57	95
Reason for Journey								
Business	1,100	1,211	255	288	323	345	310	336
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,775	4,035	714	1,178	1,430	713	665	1,119
Visit to Friends/Relatives	2,323	2,247	428	524	699	597	487	557
Other	511	519	82	141	194	102	80	147

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	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Overseas Visits	1,762	1,803	2,112	2,131	2,159
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	861	876	1,029	985	960
Sea Cross-Channel	358	297	289	281	258
Continental European	393	462	607	670	756
Transatlantic	150	169	188	195	184
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	945	953	1,082	1,070	1,023
Other Europe	453	504	637	662	729
USA & Canada	275	272	312	319	312
Other Areas	89	74	82	80	95
Reason for Journey					
Business	203	248	251	288	336
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	994	971	1,145	1,178	1,119
Visit to Friends/Relatives	443	474	566	524	557
Other	122	111	151	141	147

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

	'000						
	2007	2007				2008	
Visits		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Total Overseas Visits	8,012	1,478	2,131	2,646	1,756	1,542	2,159
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	422	75	111	137	98	86	150
Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	7,590	1,403	2,019	2,509	1,659	1,456	2,009

Table 3 Overseas Same-Day Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, Apr - Jun 2008

'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	46	24	22	150
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	49	22	12	8	91
Other Europe	4	10	5	9	29
USA & Canada	4	12	5	4	25
Other Areas	1	3	2	0	5

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 2008

'000

Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	278	1,073	533	125	2,009
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	138	443	323	28	932
Other Europe	103	391	132	73	700
USA & Canada	25	195	50	18	287
Other Areas	12	44	28	6	90

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						
	2007	2007				2008	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	7.3	6.4	6.7	8.6	6.8	6.7	7.6
Route of Travel							
Air Cross-Channel	4.8	4.4	4.6	5.3	4.6	4.3	4.7
Sea Cross-Channel	8.4	7.7	7.3	9.7	7.1	8.2	8.2
Continental European	9.9	8.8	8.8	11.6	9.4	9.9	10.2
Transatlantic	9.5	8.6	8.9	10.0	10.2	8.9	10.4
Area of Residence							
Great Britain	4.7	4.0	4.4	5.8	4.2	4.1	4.6
Other Europe	9.6	8.3	8.8	11.6	8.5	9.7	10.2
USA & Canada	9.1	8.9	8.5	9.1	10.0	8.1	9.1
Other Areas	14.5	16.4	12.4	13.8	16.5	15.5	13.3
Reason for Journey							
Business	5.2	5.0	4.1	5.7	5.8	3.8	4.9
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	6.8	5.0	6.5	8.6	5.6	5.6	6.7
Visit to Friends/Relatives	7.9	8.2	7.4	8.4	7.5	8.6	7.5
Other	13.1	14.4	11.1	13.2	14.8	15.6	21.5

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						
	2007	2007				2008	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Accommodation	55,628	9,041	13,610	21,652	11,328	9,826	15,316
Hotel	13,474	2,241	3,473	4,956	2,804	2,421	3,972
Guest house/B&B	6,017	606	2,022	2,577	812	504	1,853
Rented house/Apartment	10,388	2,021	2,602	3,537	2,229	1,888	3,083
Caravan/Camping	1,083	14	291	748	31	33	198
Hostel	1,684	276	455	689	265	232	574
Friends/Relatives	17,292	3,446	3,589	6,238	4,020	3,911	3,982
Other	5,689	437	1,178	2,907	1,167	836	1,655

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

Bednights	'000						
	2007	2007				2008	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Great Britain	17,487	2,833	4,364	6,707	3,582	3,261	4,330
Hotel	4,993	991	1,345	1,475	1,182	1,157	1,249
Guest house/B&B	1,552	212	472	665	203	133	382
Rented house/Apartment	2,408	287	690	1,197	233	339	664
Caravan/Camping	364	4	80	267	13	15	72
Hostel	173	34	39	75	25	24	29
Friends/Relatives	7,143	1,177	1,529	2,692	1,745	1,458	1,564
Other	854	128	209	336	181	135	370
Other Europe	24,288	4,044	5,675	9,959	4,612	4,515	7,175
Hotel	4,508	691	1,145	1,873	799	669	1,609
Guest house/B&B	2,578	254	813	1,171	341	241	854
Rented house/Apartment	5,698	1,257	1,402	1,637	1,402	1,054	1,677
Caravan/Camping	670	10	194	452	15	18	123
Hostel	862	154	197	394	117	127	341
Friends/Relatives	6,174	1,500	1,151	2,103	1,420	1,847	1,527
Other	3,798	178	773	2,329	518	559	1,044
USA & Canada	9,381	1,317	2,592	3,445	2,028	1,200	2,618
Hotel	3,356	444	852	1,351	710	499	934
Guest house/B&B	1,401	112	560	546	182	78	460
Rented house/Apartment	1,376	241	331	402	402	169	434
Caravan/Camping	47	0	16	29	2	0	1
Hostel	333	46	128	108	51	43	140
Friends/Relatives	2,149	391	538	828	393	289	429
Other	719	83	167	181	288	122	220
Other Areas	4,472	845	979	1,541	1,105	850	1,193
Hotel	617	115	131	257	114	96	180
Guest house/B&B	485	27	177	195	86	53	156
Rented house/Apartment	906	235	179	301	191	325	309
Caravan/Camping	3	0	2	0	1	0	2
Hostel	317	42	90	112	72	39	63
Friends/Relatives	1,826	378	371	615	462	317	462
Other	318	48	29	61	179	20	20

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 2008

'000					
Bednights	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Accommodation Used	1,369	7,236	4,020	2,691	15,316
Hotel	625	2,987	286	73	3,972
Guest house/B&B	167	1,355	202	129	1,853
Rented house/Apartment	319	1,324	364	1,076	3,083
Caravan/Camping	3	181	14	0	198
Hostel	10	335	40	189	574
Friends/Relatives	157	743	3,012	70	3,982
Other	88	312	101	1,154	1,655

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

'000

Visits	2007		2007				2008	
			Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Total Overseas Visits	7,713	1,575	2,049	2,356	1,734	1,762	2,051	
Route of Travel								
Air Cross-Channel	2,356	600	578	574	604	642	609	
Sea Cross-Channel	333	53	97	108	75	67	89	
Continental European	4,583	841	1,286	1,548	908	944	1,238	
Transatlantic	441	81	88	126	146	109	115	
Reason for Journey								
Business	886	236	245	174	232	229	283	
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	4,654	890	1,254	1,599	911	1,044	1,243	
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,753	365	424	465	499	423	445	
Other	420	84	126	118	92	67	79	

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				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Overseas Visits	1,431	1,626	1,826	2,049	2,051
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	485	588	581	578	609
Sea Cross-Channel	103	85	90	97	89
Continental European	773	874	1,067	1,286	1,238
Transatlantic	70	79	88	88	115
Reason for Journey					
Business	178	191	193	245	283
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	837	965	1,067	1,254	1,243
Visit to Friends/Relatives	336	345	397	424	445
Other	80	125	169	126	79

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

Visits	'000						
	2007	2007				2008	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Total Overseas Visits	7,713	1,575	2,049	2,356	1,734	1,762	2,051
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)	205	59	50	55	41	42	76
Visits with at least one overnight abroad	7,508	1,517	1,999	2,300	1,693	1,721	1,975

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

Visits	'000						
	2007	2007				2008	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Total Overseas Visits	205	59	50	55	41	42	76
Route of Travel							
Air Cross-Channel	134	43	37	26	28	33	42
Sea Cross-Channel	28	5	9	11	4	1	7
Continental European	42	11	4	19	9	7	27
Transatlantic	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Reason for Journey							
Business	109	33	31	26	19	24	40
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	57	14	11	19	13	8	29
Visit to Friends/Relatives	32	10	6	8	8	9	5
Other	6	1	2	2	0	1	2

Table 12 Overseas Same-Day Visits by Irish Residents - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, Apr - Jun 2008

'000					
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Total Same-Day Visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)	40	29	5	2	76
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	32	5	5	1	42
Sea Cross-Channel	3	3	0	1	7
Continental European	5	21	-	0	27
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 2008

'000					
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Total Visits with at least one overnight abroad	244	1,213	441	78	1,975
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	112	224	199	31	566
Sea Cross-Channel	7	36	29	9	82
Continental European	104	892	180	35	1,211
Transatlantic	21	60	32	2	115

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

Length of Stay	Nights						
	2007	2007				2008	
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
All Overseas Visits	8.1	6.6	7.4	10.5	7.0	7.4	7.1
Route of Travel							
Air Cross-Channel	8.5	7.3	7.9	11.9	7.2	7.0	6.3
Sea Cross-Channel	6.5	5.2	5.9	8.7	5.0	7.2	6.3
Continental European	7.8	6.0	7.2	9.9	6.8	7.4	7.3
Transatlantic	10.2	8.5	10.1	13.4	8.3	10.3	9.9
Reason for Journey							
Business	6.1	5.6	5.7	8.5	5.2	4.9	4.7
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	8.4	6.2	7.7	10.7	7.2	7.2	7.4
Visit to Friends/Relatives	8.3	7.9	8.2	10.1	7.1	9.1	7.4
Other	8.2	7.6	5.1	12.4	7.7	9.0	9.4

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
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	4,902	6,163	-1,261
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	1,291	1,526	-235
July – September	1,768	2,098	-330
October – December	1,024	1,396	-373
2008 January – March ⁴	824	1,452	-628
April – June	1,313	1,627	-315

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 Revised

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 2 2008 was just under 129,000 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 2008 was just under 93,800 passengers.