



# Overseas Travel

January 2009

000's

1000

800

600

400

200

0

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

Trips to Ireland

Irish Trips Overseas

			by Area of Residence			
	Irish Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Jan '07	493,900	440,900	228,000	146,200	44,400	22,200
Jan '08	548,400	437,000	224,000	147,600	44,200	21,200
Jan '09	502,100	424,200	208,300	149,500	45,200	21,200

The number of overseas trips by Irish residents fell by 8.4% to 502,100 in January 2009 compared to the 548,400 recorded in January 2008. *See Tables 1 and 2.*

There were 424,200 overseas trips to Ireland in January 2009 and this was down by almost 3% from the same month in 2008. Visits by residents of Great Britain accounted for virtually all of this decrease, falling by almost 16,000 (7%) to 208,300. Meanwhile, visits by residents of Other Europe and North America recorded slight increases to 149,500 and 45,200 respectively. *See Tables 1 and 2.*

The CSO “Airport Pairings” database contains information of every direct flight in and out of the nine Irish airports on a monthly basis. Data is available from January 2006 to September 2008. For details please go to <http://tinyurl.com/2nypw8>.

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Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

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

	Period	Irish Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
				Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
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
	March	586,700	576,800	289,300	196,900	71,000	19,500
	April	618,800	651,600	357,700	202,000	70,500	21,300
	May	665,200	705,600	358,700	219,900	100,300	26,800
	June	764,600	773,800	353,200	240,600	147,800	32,200
	July	808,600	909,200	412,800	312,500	146,000	37,900
	August	815,700	962,900	472,100	320,500	132,200	38,100
	September	731,400	774,300	384,400	240,600	112,100	37,200
	October	670,100	664,200	348,600	200,500	87,400	27,700
	November	509,700	569,300	304,000	185,400	61,200	18,800
	December	553,700	523,000	268,900	172,100	59,500	22,400
2008	January	548,400	437,000	224,000	147,600	44,200	21,200
	February	547,600	471,300	259,800	147,600	46,800	17,200
	March	666,500	634,000	365,700	185,000	64,900	18,300
	April	604,800	603,900	301,200	206,000	74,000	22,600
	May	677,700	805,700	397,000	273,500	105,700	29,600
	June	768,300	749,900	325,000	249,500	132,400	43,000
	July	856,400	835,300	341,800	311,600	137,100	44,900
	August	845,600	946,300	488,400	296,600	118,200	43,100
	September	726,300	690,700	318,600	231,800	101,900	38,400
	October	639,500	662,000	323,700	230,700	76,800	30,900
	November	505,200	499,100	261,200	170,100	48,300	19,500
	December	491,100	503,900	266,000	160,500	54,300	23,200
2009	January	502,100	424,200	208,300	149,500	45,200	21,200

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

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)						
2006	68,200	30,300	0	28,200	-1,600	3,700
2007	51,600	32,500	-4,000	30,400	4,300	1,700
2008	54,500	-3,900	-4,000	1,400	-200	-1,000
2009	-46,300	-12,800	-15,700	1,900	1,000	0
Change versus corresponding month of previous year (%)						
2006	18.2	8.0	0.0	32.2	-3.8	22.0
2007	11.7	8.0	-1.7	26.3	10.7	8.3
2008	11.0	-0.9	-1.8	1.0	-0.5	-4.5
2009	-8.4	-2.9	-7.0	1.3	2.3	0.0

**Table 3 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence 2007 - 2009**

Area of Residence <sup>1</sup>	2007	2008	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09
<b>Total Overseas Trips</b>	<b>8,012,200</b>	<b>7,839,000</b>	<b>424,200</b>											
Great Britain	4,031,900	3,872,400	208,300											
Austria	40,800	52,700	1,200											
Belgium	82,800	88,600	6,400											
Czech Republic	43,000	46,800	3,000											
Denmark	55,400	60,000	1,600											
Finland	38,600	35,300	1,300											
France	397,300	414,700	22,900											
Germany	446,200	467,700	21,100											
Hungary	30,600	35,300	2,200											
Italy	263,800	235,500	15,100											
Latvia	37,200	37,100	3,000											
Lithuania	49,200	37,600	3,600											
Netherlands	153,900	150,100	9,700											
Poland	311,800	295,600	24,500											
Portugal	28,700	33,800	1,500											
Romania	25,800	29,400	3,100											
Slovakia	35,800	47,100	2,300											
Spain	239,400	238,100	13,700											
Sweden	97,500	83,500	4,300											
Other EU 27 <sup>3</sup>	45,300	53,400	2,700											
Norway	60,700	47,900	1,500											
Switzerland	59,700	59,500	2,000											
Other Europe <sup>2</sup>	46,900	60,500	2,900											
USA	991,700	908,600	41,800											
Canada	81,500	96,000	3,500											
Central, South and Other Americas <sup>2</sup>	28,100	34,500	2,400											
South Africa	24,800	32,100	1,600											
Other Africa <sup>2</sup>	15,600	23,800	1,200											
Japan	16,600	14,400	500											
Eastern Asia <sup>2</sup>	23,600	21,500	1,200											
Middle East <sup>2</sup>	25,400	26,200	1,100											
Other Asia <sup>2</sup>	37,700	40,300	3,700											
Australia	120,200	135,600	8,000											
New Zealand and Other Oceania <sup>2</sup>	24,700	23,400	1,400											

<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.

<sup>3</sup> See Background Notes for Countries included & changes from Jan 2008.

**Table 4 Overseas Trips by Area of Residence - Seasonally Adjusted**

	Period	Irish Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Area of Residence			
				Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
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
	March	652,700	684,100	323,000	250,200	80,200	27,300
	April	662,400	643,800	327,300	207,800	86,400	27,700
	May	618,200	652,900	348,400	186,800	85,300	26,900
	June	632,700	658,300	336,400	199,800	98,100	24,100
	July	591,700	674,700	352,200	193,600	91,200	25,800
	August	635,000	653,400	325,900	206,200	91,200	26,500
	September	639,800	689,600	348,300	234,100	86,000	27,600
	October	662,000	662,800	337,600	211,200	86,800	27,400
	November	660,800	733,500	365,500	257,300	88,300	24,500
	December	744,600	665,800	317,600	221,200	102,100	26,000
2008	January	684,400	657,100	324,600	223,900	87,900	26,800
	February	705,100	667,700	324,800	235,200	90,400	20,300
	March	733,900	734,300	411,300	218,200	76,800	25,500
	April	630,500	597,100	278,100	211,500	92,200	28,600
	May	627,800	747,700	384,200	231,000	91,700	29,800
	June	638,000	639,900	308,200	209,100	87,400	32,800
	July	620,200	619,600	288,700	203,900	84,900	31,000
	August	668,700	646,500	337,800	197,300	80,300	30,300
	September	641,800	613,300	285,900	223,100	77,900	28,600
	October	634,600	659,900	311,200	245,800	76,800	30,300
	November	680,300	647,300	319,300	235,900	70,600	25,500
	December	660,700	636,000	314,200	203,500	93,600	27,200
2009 <sup>1</sup>	January	617,100	639,400	303,800	224,100	91,000	27,900

<sup>1</sup> Seasonal Adjustment factors updated from January 2009

## Background Notes

<b>Periodicity</b>	Monthly.
<b>Scope</b>	Overseas Travel.
<b>Coverage</b>	All Overseas Travel into and out of the 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 January 2009 Country of Residence Survey was just over 23,300 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. In some cases where ports/airports are unable to provide private/charter figures minor estimations will be made. 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 3 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. Once a year, in January, seasonal factors are 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 1-2 and 4

From January 2007 Other Europe includes the following Countries:

EU 27 i.e.

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

Switzerland

Norway

Other Europe (see page 8 for breakdown of countries)

**North America  
Tables 1-2 and 4**

North America includes the following Countries:

Canada  
United States

**Other Areas  
Tables 1-2 and 4**

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)  
Eastern Asia, Middle East and Other Asia (see page 10 for breakdown of countries)  
New Zealand and Other Oceania (see page 10 for breakdown of countries)

**Other EU 27  
Table 3**

From January 2008 Other EU 27 includes the following Countries:

Bulgaria	Luxembourg
Cyprus	Malta
Estonia	Slovenia
Greece	

**Other Europe  
Table 3**

From January 2007 Other Europe includes the following Countries:

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

**Central, South and  
Other Americas  
Table 3**

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 3**

From January 2007 Other Africa includes the following Countries:

Algeria	Madagascar
Angola	Malawi
Benin	Mali
Botswana	Mauritania
Burkina Faso	Mauritius
Burundi	Mayotte
Cameroon	Morocco
Cape Verde	Mozambique
Central African Republic	Namibia
Chad	Niger
Comoros	Nigeria
Congo	Reunion
Congo, The Democratic Republic of the	Rwanda
Cote d'Ivoire	Saint Helena
Djibouti	Sao Tome and Principe
Egypt	Senegal
Equatorial Guinea	Seychelles
Eritrea	Sierra Leone
Ethiopia	Somalia
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

**Eastern Asia  
Table 3**

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

**Middle East  
Table 3**

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	

**Other Asia  
Table 3**

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	Vietnam

**New Zealand and  
Other Oceania  
Table 3**

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	