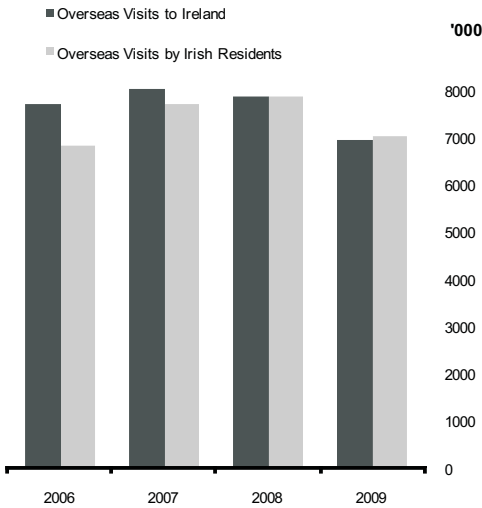


Number of Visits 2006 - 2009



Tourism and Travel 2009

	Overseas Visits to Ireland '000	Overseas Visits by Irish Residents '000
2006	7,709	6,848
2007	8,012	7,713
2008	7,839	7,877
2009	6,927	7,047

Visitors to Ireland and their expenditure decreased by over 11% in 2009

There were 6,927,000 overseas visits to Ireland in the year 2009, compared with 7,839,000 in 2008, a decrease of 11.6%. The number of overseas visits to Ireland dropped on all routes in 2009. Trips on air cross-channel routes decreased by 15.6% in 2009 while expenditure decreased by 21.5%. Business trips decreased by 20.5% while spending decreased by over 25%. Holiday/leisure/recreation expenditure and trips decreased by 26% and 18% respectively. *See Tables 1, 2, 3 and Graph.*

The number of overseas visits by Irish residents fell by 10.5% to 7,047,000 in 2009 compared to 7,877,000 in 2008. Expenditure on trips taken on the sea cross-channel route increased by 10.2% while expenditure fell on all other routes. *See Tables 11, 13 and Graph.*

The expenditure figures for the year 2009 show a net outflow of €2,270m. Earnings from Visits to Ireland accounted for €3,879m, while expenditure by Irish Visitors Abroad amounted to €6,148m. *See Table 16.*

The Tourism figures in this release also show that:

- ◆ Nights spent in Ireland decreased in 2009, with 11.7% fewer nights spent than in 2008. Hotel bednights decreased by 19.7% while guest houses/B&Bs nights fell by 20.6%. Increases were seen in nights spent staying with friends and relatives and also in caravan and camping. *See Table 8.*
- ◆ The average length of stay of Overseas Visits to Ireland during 2009 was 8.1 nights. This compares with an average of 9.1 nights for Overseas Visits by Irish Residents. *See Tables 7 and 15.*

Note: All percentage increases and decreases are calculated on the same period in the previous year except where specifically referenced.

For more information contact Sheona Gilsonan at 021 453 5777 or Colm Noonan at 021 453 5463.

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)
0870 8760256 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353 1 498 4000
Fax: +353 1 498 4229

Tel: +353 21 453 5000
Fax: +353 21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: www.cso.ie
and go to
Business Sectors: Tourism and Travel

Director General: Gerard O'Hanlon

Enquiries:

Tourism Statistics Tourism and Travel Section, ext 5777
Queries and Sales Information Section, ext 5021
information@cso.ie

© Central Statistics Office
The contents of this release may be quoted provided the source is given clearly and accurately. Reproduction for own or internal use is permitted.

Table 1 Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Estimated Expenditure (Classified by Route of Travel) and Total International Tourism and Travel Earnings

€ million

Estimated Expenditure	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	1,372	1,471	1,424	1,441	1,131
Sea Cross-Channel	493	453	465	396	326
Continental European	1,076	1,310	1,464	1,575	1,237
Transatlantic	513	559	568	421	414
All Overseas Routes	3,455	3,793	3,920	3,834	3,109
Cross-Border¹	235	237	256	262	246
Total Expenditure (excluding international fares)	3,689	4,029	4,176	4,095	3,355
Passenger fare receipts of Irish carriers from Visits to Ireland	583	663	726	686	524
Total international tourism and travel earnings²	4,272	4,692	4,902	4,781	3,879

¹ Estimates are for tourist expenditure only. See Background Notes for estimation methodology.

² Total Expenditure (excl. international fares) plus passenger fare receipts of Irish carriers from visits to Ireland

Table 2 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Estimated Expenditure (Excluding International Fares) Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey

€ million

Estimated Expenditure	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total Expenditure (excluding international fares)	3,455	3,793	3,920	3,834	3,109
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	1,257	1,373	1,388	1,355	1,038
Other Europe	1,232	1,352	1,400	1,503	1,172
USA and Canada	731	803	806	660	620
Other Areas	234	265	326	315	278
Reason for Journey					
Business	457	473	554	594	443
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	1,822	2,029	2,108	1,939	1,432
Visit to Friends/Relatives	884	936	914	899	873
Other	292	353	344	402	360

Table 3 Visits to Ireland - Estimated Number of Overseas Visits by Non-Residents (Classified by Route of Travel, Area of Residence and Reason for Journey) and of Cross-Border Visits on Rail and Scheduled Bus Services

	'000				
Visits	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total Overseas Visits	6,977	7,709	8,012	7,839	6,927
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	3,595	3,900	3,754	3,690	3,114
Sea Cross-Channel	1,085	983	1,013	890	784
Continental European	1,705	2,181	2,575	2,656	2,429
Transatlantic	592	645	669	603	601
Area of Residence					
Great Britain	3,822	4,060	4,032	3,872	3,257
Other Europe	1,917	2,281	2,590	2,610	2,382
USA and Canada	953	1,055	1,073	1,005	980
Other Areas	285	314	317	352	308
Reason for Journey					
Business	967	1,100	1,211	1,334	1,061
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,428	3,775	4,035	3,698	3,027
Visit to Friends/Relatives	2,125	2,323	2,247	2,276	2,343
Other	457	511	519	531	496
Total Cross Border visits By Scheduled Public Transport (Including same-day visits)¹					
Rail	210	196	232	220	172
Scheduled Bus	259	242	222	212	207

¹ Change from 2007 - includes same day visits by scheduled public transport

Table 4 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents Distinguishing Same-Day Visits

	'000			
Visits	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total Overseas Visits	7,709	8,012	7,839	6,927
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	424	422	551	479
Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	7,285	7,590	7,288	6,448

Table 5 Overseas Same-Day Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, 2009

	'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)	201	144	92	42	479
Great Britain	160	65	39	9	273
Other Europe	27	27	20	20	94
USA & Canada	13	49	31	11	104
Other Areas	1	4	2	1	9

Table 6 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents, with at least one overnight in Ireland - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, 2009

	'000				
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	860	2,882	2,251	454	6,448
Great Britain	475	1,099	1,310	100	2,984
Other Europe	278	1,098	615	298	2,288
USA & Canada	74	547	224	32	877
Other Areas	33	138	103	25	299

Table 7 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	2006	2007	2008	2009
All Overseas Visits	7.6	7.3	8.1	8.1
Route of Travel				
Air Cross-Channel	5.1	4.8	5.1	5.5
Sea Cross-Channel	8.3	8.4	8.7	8.8
Continental European	11.1	9.9	11.6	10.7
Transatlantic	9.6	9.5	10.2	10.1
Area of Residence				
Great Britain	4.8	4.7	4.8	5.1
Other Europe	11.2	9.6	11.4	10.6
USA and Canada	9.0	9.1	9.3	9.3
Other Areas	12.4	14.5	15.2	15.6
Reason for Journey				
Business	4.2	5.2	4.7	6.0
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	7.0	6.8	7.1	6.9
Visit to Friends/Relatives	8.5	7.9	8.3	8.1
Other	15.8	13.1	23.0	20.0

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

	'000					
Bednights	2008	2009	2009			
			Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Accommodation	59,337	52,412	8,618	15,764	18,253	9,779
Hotel	13,584	10,902	1,931	2,994	4,125	1,852
Guest house/B&B	5,469	4,344	404	1,713	1,621	606
Rented house/Apartment	12,452	10,312	1,804	3,632	2,981	1,895
Caravan/Camping	778	932	10	416	457	49
Hostel	1,704	1,549	333	432	539	244
Friends/Relatives	17,846	18,504	3,263	4,423	6,712	4,105
Other	7,503	5,870	872	2,154	1,817	1,028

Table 9 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	2008	2009	2009			
			Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Great Britain	17,057	15,231	2,696	4,061	5,666	2,809
Hotel	4,770	3,673	836	1,028	1,115	695
Guest house/B&B	1,329	916	114	321	390	91
Rented house/Apartment	2,556	1,615	361	455	596	204
Caravan/Camping	234	223	7	106	107	3
Hostel	156	140	52	37	29	22
Friends/Relatives	6,957	7,735	1,213	1,769	3,119	1,635
Other	1,056	929	115	345	311	159
Other Europe	28,608	24,331	4,001	8,221	7,787	4,322
Hotel	5,019	3,882	618	1,102	1,573	589
Guest house/B&B	2,595	2,201	195	884	760	362
Rented house/Apartment	6,758	6,028	1,069	2,427	1,542	990
Caravan/Camping	522	680	3	299	334	44
Hostel	1,009	928	204	198	383	142
Friends/Relatives	7,246	6,427	1,282	1,712	1,896	1,536
Other	5,459	4,185	630	1,598	1,299	658
USA & Canada	8,532	8,172	1,177	2,382	2,920	1,693
Hotel	3,106	2,689	379	701	1,172	437
Guest house/B&B	1,065	963	64	407	375	117
Rented house/Apartment	1,435	1,557	213	466	399	479
Caravan/Camping	9	18	0	8	8	2
Hostel	326	314	57	106	94	56
Friends/Relatives	1,794	2,190	378	553	755	504
Other	798	442	86	141	116	98
Other Areas	5,139	4,678	743	1,101	1,880	955
Hotel	690	658	99	163	265	130
Guest house/B&B	480	265	32	101	95	36
Rented house/Apartment	1,703	1,111	160	284	444	223
Caravan/Camping	13	11	0	3	8	0
Hostel	214	167	20	91	33	24
Friends/Relatives	1,849	2,151	391	390	942	429
Other	190	315	40	70	92	113

Table 10 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, 2009

'000

Bednights	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
Accommodation Used	5,140	19,997	18,195	9,081	52,412
Hotel	1,981	7,117	1,156	648	10,902
Guest house/B&B	292	2,942	721	389	4,344
Rented house/Apartment	1,349	3,363	1,470	4,130	10,312
Caravan/Camping	48	815	55	13	932
Hostel	38	1,158	150	203	1,549
Friends/Relatives	484	2,880	13,882	1,257	18,504
Other	947	1,721	761	2,441	5,870

Table 11 Visits Abroad by Irish Residents - Estimated Expenditure (Including International Fares) Classified by Route of Travel and Total Net International Tourism and Travel Expenditure

€ million

Estimated Expenditure	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	1,610	1,638	1,897	2,183	2,109
Sea Cross-Channel	202	192	190	245	270
Continental European	2,846	3,402	3,969	4,229	3,498
Transatlantic	612	686	786	926	705
All Overseas Routes	5,270	5,918	6,842	7,583	6,582
Cross-Border ¹	131	131	142	145	136
Total Expenditure (including international fares)	5,401	6,049	6,984	7,728	6,718
Passenger fare payments by Irish Visitors abroad to Irish carriers	629	732	821	816	570
Total net international tourism and travel expenditure²	4,773	5,318	6,163	6,912	6,148

¹ Estimates are for tourist expenditure only

² Total Expenditure (incl. international fares) less passenger fare payments by Irish Visitors abroad to Irish carriers

Table 12 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Expenditure (Including International Fares) Classified by Reason for Journey

€ million

Estimated Expenditure	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total Expenditure (including international fares)	5,270	5,918	6,842	7,583	6,582
Reason for Journey					
Business	708	781	829	971	744
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,220	3,557	4,388	4,975	4,153
Visit to Friends/Relatives	945	1,132	1,227	1,283	1,256
Other	397	448	398	355	428

Table 13 Visits Abroad by Irish Residents - Estimated Number of Overseas Visits (Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey) and of Cross-Border Visits on Rail and Scheduled Bus Services

'000

Visits	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total Overseas Visits	6,113	6,848	7,713	7,877	7,047
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	2,215	2,252	2,356	2,468	2,365
Sea Cross-Channel	336	341	333	357	421
Continental European	3,205	3,867	4,583	4,533	3,859
Transatlantic	357	387	441	520	402
Reason for Journey					
Business	738	813	886	922	731
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,518	3,864	4,654	4,824	4,135
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,416	1,648	1,753	1,804	1,761
Other	441	523	420	328	420
Cross Border Visits					
Length of Stay - Over 1 day*	271	277	323	367	475
Total Cross Border visits By Scheduled Public Transport (Including same-day visits)**					
Rail	178	167	196	188	145
Scheduled Bus	219	205	189	179	175

* Source Household Travel Survey

** Change from 2007 - Includes same day visits by scheduled public transport

Table 14 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents Distinguishing Same-Day Visits

	'000			
Visits	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total Overseas Visits	6,848	7,713	7,877	7,047
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)	191	205	201	194
Visits with at least one overnight abroad	6,657	7,508	7,676	6,853

Table 15 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Average Length of Stay (Nights) Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey

	Nights				
Length of Stay	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
All Overseas Visits	8.4	8.0	8.1	8.5	9.1
Route of Travel					
Air Cross-Channel	8.3	7.5	8.5	8.1	8.1
Sea Cross-Channel	6.5	7.1	6.5	7.7	8.9
Continental European	8.3	8.0	7.8	8.5	9.3
Transatlantic	11.7	10.9	10.2	11.0	12.8
Reason for Journey					
Business	6.6	6.3	6.1	6.5	8.7
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	8.4	8.0	8.4	8.5	9.0
Visit to Friends/Relatives	9.1	9.0	8.3	8.8	9.4
Other	8.8	7.0	8.2	11.1	8.8

Table 16 Tourism and Travel Estimated Earnings and Expenditure

	€ million				
Estimated Earnings and Expenditure	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
International Tourism and Travel					
Earnings from visits to Ireland	4,272	4,692	4,902	4,781	3,879
Net International Tourism and Travel					
Expenditure by Irish Visitors abroad	4,773	5,318	6,163	6,912	6,148
Tourism and Travel Balance	-501	-626	-1,261	-2,131	-2,270

Background Notes

Introduction This annual series gives details on the number of overseas visits to Ireland and Irish visits abroad for the year. It provides data on the reason for journey, average length of stay (nights) and expenditure.

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 at airports and seaports. These are 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 the estimates for overseas tourism and travel in this release.

Passenger fare payments by non-residents to Irish carriers refer to total fare payments to Irish carriers, that is, including fares for non-Irish travel.

The *Country of Residence Survey* is a continuous sample survey of passengers (both inward and outward) which provides 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 categorised into the areas of residence shown in this release. The sample size in the 2009 *Country of Residence Survey* was just under 338,500 passengers.

The *Passenger Card Inquiry* is a continuous sample survey of incoming and departing passengers. 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 in the 2009 *Passenger Card Inquiry* at air and seaports was just under 238,000 passengers (104,700 inward and 133,300 outward).

2003 was the last year the CSO conducted a survey of passengers on rail and scheduled bus services. The CRS distribution found in 2003 has been applied to 2009 rail and bus passenger numbers. Expenditure has been updated to take account of inflation and total passenger numbers. The estimates of expenditure by cross-border visitors using private cars (or un-scheduled bus services) are based on very limited information and must be regarded as subject to error.