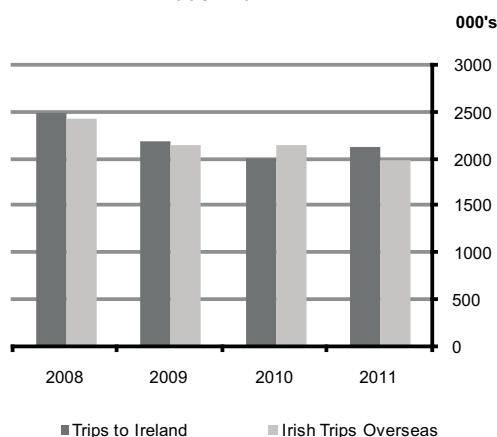




**An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh**  
Central Statistics Office

14 November 2011

## Overseas Travel July - September, 2008 - 2011



## Overseas Travel July - September 2011

	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	by Area of Residence			
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Jul-Sept '09	2,137,100	2,177,300	956,100	757,600	356,400	107,300
Jul-Sept '10	2,137,200	1,996,600	852,600	700,900	332,800	110,200
Jul-Sept '11	1,987,200	2,126,200	910,500	741,800	350,000	123,800
Jan-Sep '09	5,576,400	5,481,400	2,537,000	1,904,500	803,600	236,400
Jan-Sep '10	5,249,500	4,622,800	2,081,000	1,567,900	734,200	239,700
Jan-Sep '11	5,028,300	5,085,400	2,235,900	1,761,500	812,300	275,700

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## Trips to Ireland increased by over 6% for the period July - September 2011

In the period July to September of 2011, the total number of *overseas trips to Ireland* increased by 6.5% to 2,126,200, an overall increase of 129,600 compared to the same period twelve months earlier. Visitors from Great Britain increased by 6.8% to 910,500, while visitors from European Countries other than Great Britain (Other Europe) increased by 5.8% to 741,800. Trips by residents of North America were up by 5.2% to 350,000 while trips by residents of all Other Areas rose by 12.3%. *See tables 1 and 2.*

The total number of *overseas trips by Irish residents* decreased by 7.0% to 1,987,200 when compared to the same period in 2010. *See tables 1 and 2.*

*The total number of trips (Irish residents' trips overseas plus trips to Ireland) in the period July to September of 2011 decreased by 0.5% to 4,113,400 when compared with the same period in 2010. July to September 2010 saw a drop of 4.2% from the corresponding period in 2009. See tables 1 and 2.*

The CSO "Airport Pairings" database contains information on every direct flight in and out of the nine Irish airports on a monthly basis. Data is available from January 2006 to August 2011 inclusive. September passenger figures will be available from December 1<sup>st</sup>. For details please go to <http://cso.ie/shorturl.aspx/15>.

*For more information, contact Patsy King at 021 453 5502 or Margaret Power at 021 453 5463.*

**Table 1 Overseas Trips for the period July - September, 2008 - 2011**

Year	Period	All Trips	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence			
					Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
2008	July - Sept	4,900,700	2,428,300	2,472,400	1,148,900	839,900	357,200	126,400
2009	July - Sept	4,314,500	2,137,100	2,177,300	956,100	757,600	356,400	107,300
2010	July - Sept	4,133,800	2,137,200	1,996,600	852,600	700,900	332,800	110,200
2011	July - Sept	4,113,400	1,987,200	2,126,200	910,500	741,800	350,000	123,800

**Table 2 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for the period July - September, 2009 - 2011**

Year	Period	All Trips	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence			
					Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Change versus corresponding period of previous year (number)								
2009	July - Sept	-586,200	-291,200	-295,100	-192,800	-82,300	-800	-19,100
2010	July - Sept	-180,700	100	-180,700	-103,500	-56,700	-23,600	2,900
2011	July - Sept	-20,400	-150,000	129,600	57,900	40,900	17,200	13,600
Change versus corresponding period of previous year (%)								
2009	July - Sept	-12.0	-12.0	-11.9	-16.8	-9.8	-0.2	-15.1
2010	July - Sept	-4.2	0.0	-8.3	-10.8	-7.5	-6.6	2.7
2011	July - Sept	-0.5	-7.0	6.5	6.8	5.8	5.2	12.3

**Table 3 Overseas Trips for the period January - September, 2008 - 2011**

Year	All Trips	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence			
				Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
2008	12,415,600	6,241,600	6,174,000	3,021,500	2,049,100	825,200	278,200
2009	11,057,900	5,576,400	5,481,400	2,537,000	1,904,500	803,600	236,400
2010	9,872,400	5,249,500	4,622,800	2,081,000	1,567,900	734,200	239,700
2011	10,113,700	5,028,300	5,085,400	2,235,900	1,761,500	812,300	275,700

**Table 4 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for the period January - September, 2009 - 2011**

Year	All Trips	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence			
				Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Annual change in year to September total (number)							
2009	-1,357,700	-665,200	-692,600	-484,500	-144,600	-21,600	-41,800
2010	-1,185,500	-326,900	-858,600	-456,000	-336,600	-69,400	3,300
2011	241,300	-221,200	462,600	154,900	193,600	78,100	36,000
Annual change in year to September total (%)							
2009	-10.9	-10.7	-11.2	-16.0	-7.1	-2.6	-15.0
2010	-10.7	-5.9	-15.7	-18.0	-17.7	-8.6	1.4
2011	2.4	-4.2	10.0	7.4	12.3	10.6	15.0

**Table 5 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence for the period July - September, 2008 - 2011**

Area of Residence <sup>1</sup>	July - September			
	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total Overseas Trips to Ireland</b>	<b>2,472,400</b>	<b>2,177,300</b>	<b>1,996,600</b>	<b>2,126,200</b>
Great Britain	1,148,900	956,100	852,600	910,500
Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg	69,700	70,200	64,500	72,200
France	142,100	126,500	119,900	130,200
Germany	157,500	139,600	135,500	139,400
Italy	84,000	102,400	90,700	81,700
Spain	84,300	87,300	80,000	88,300
Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark	67,500	51,900	55,800	56,800
Other Europe <sup>2</sup>	234,800	179,800	154,600	173,200
USA and Canada	357,200	356,400	332,800	350,000
Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania <sup>2</sup>	62,700	48,300	49,900	54,400
Other Areas <sup>2</sup>	63,700	59,000	60,300	69,500

<sup>1</sup> Country estimates are subject to high levels of sample variation and therefore should be interpreted with caution. See Background Notes.

<sup>2</sup> See Background Notes for Countries included.

**Table 6 Overseas Trips in each calendar quarter, 2007 - 2011**

		Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence						
Year	Period	All Trips	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland				
					Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
2007	Quarter 1	3,053,500	1,575,200	1,478,300	771,500	496,400	156,200	54,300
	Quarter 2	4,179,600	2,048,600	2,131,000	1,069,600	662,500	318,600	80,300
	Quarter 3	5,002,100	2,355,700	2,646,400	1,269,300	873,600	390,300	113,200
	Quarter 4	3,490,100	1,733,600	1,756,500	921,500	557,900	208,100	68,900
2008	Quarter 1	3,304,700	1,762,500	1,542,200	849,500	480,200	155,900	56,700
	Quarter 2	4,210,200	2,050,800	2,159,400	1,023,200	729,000	312,100	95,200
	Quarter 3	4,900,700	2,428,300	2,472,400	1,148,900	839,900	357,200	126,400
	Quarter 4	3,300,800	1,635,800	1,665,000	850,900	561,200	179,400	73,500
2009	Quarter 1	2,942,000	1,539,800	1,402,200	722,400	488,700	142,200	48,800
	Quarter 2	3,801,500	1,899,600	1,901,900	858,500	658,200	305,000	80,300
	Quarter 3	4,314,500	2,137,100	2,177,300	956,100	757,600	356,400	107,300
	Quarter 4	2,919,000	1,472,900	1,446,100	720,100	477,800	176,800	71,500
2010	Quarter 1	2,524,000	1,439,200	1,084,800	526,600	366,500	137,300	54,200
	Quarter 2	3,214,500	1,673,100	1,541,400	701,700	500,500	264,000	75,200
	Quarter 3	4,133,800	2,137,200	1,996,600	852,600	700,900	332,800	110,200
	Quarter 4	2,736,800	1,322,500	1,414,300	657,600	477,300	201,400	78,100
2011	Quarter 1	2,447,700	1,270,100	1,177,600	564,300	399,000	153,600	60,700
	Quarter 2	3,552,600	1,771,000	1,781,600	761,000	620,700	308,800	91,200
	Quarter 3	4,113,400	1,987,200	2,126,200	910,500	741,800	350,000	123,800

**Table 7 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence, 2010 - 2011**

Area of Residence <sup>1</sup>	2010	2010				2011		
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3
<b>Total Overseas Trips to Ireland</b>	<b>6,037,100</b>	<b>1,084,800</b>	<b>1,541,400</b>	<b>1,996,600</b>	<b>1,414,300</b>	<b>1,177,600</b>	<b>1,781,600</b>	<b>2,126,200</b>
Great Britain	2,738,500	526,600	701,700	852,600	657,600	564,300	761,000	910,500
Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg	200,100	35,500	49,200	64,500	51,100	47,000	61,500	72,200
France	342,500	54,000	92,800	119,900	75,700	64,600	115,600	130,200
Germany	377,300	58,400	104,900	135,500	78,500	64,700	123,700	139,400
Italy	221,800	43,400	39,600	90,700	48,100	41,000	52,900	81,700
Spain	221,300	35,600	52,900	80,000	52,800	44,100	57,600	88,300
Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark	164,500	25,500	41,400	55,800	41,800	32,900	51,600	56,800
Other Europe <sup>2</sup>	517,700	114,200	119,700	154,600	129,300	104,700	157,800	173,200
USA and Canada	935,600	137,300	264,000	332,800	201,400	153,600	308,800	350,000
Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania <sup>2</sup>	135,300	19,200	33,100	49,900	33,100	20,300	39,600	54,400
Other Areas <sup>2</sup>	182,500	35,100	42,100	60,300	45,000	40,400	51,600	69,500

<sup>1</sup> Country estimates are subject to high levels of sample variation and therefore should be interpreted with caution. See Background Notes.

<sup>2</sup> See Background Notes for Countries included.

**Table 8 Overseas Trips in each calendar quarter - Seasonally Adjusted, 2007 - 2011**

		Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence						
Year	Period	All Trips	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland				
					Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
2007	Quarter 1	3,883,100	1,879,400	1,979,400	965,000	682,400	257,600	81,800
	Quarter 2	3,865,600	1,919,900	1,961,800	1,016,100	598,400	265,700	77,500
	Quarter 3	3,941,900	1,885,100	2,032,000	1,034,600	655,500	268,500	80,400
	Quarter 4	4,036,100	2,072,800	2,043,700	1,008,000	683,000	274,300	78,400
2008	Quarter 1	4,086,900	2,067,000	1,987,500	995,500	641,100	264,700	85,300
	Quarter 2	4,001,200	1,948,400	2,041,800	1,015,300	663,400	261,900	91,200
	Quarter 3	3,852,600	1,943,700	1,896,600	928,100	631,300	246,200	89,700
	Quarter 4	3,788,900	1,945,600	1,918,700	926,100	678,600	235,800	83,400
2009	Quarter 1	3,792,200	1,846,300	1,885,300	895,400	669,100	240,900	73,300
	Quarter 2	3,522,700	1,772,900	1,749,300	820,900	592,800	257,200	76,100
	Quarter 3	3,379,600	1,708,300	1,673,600	780,400	572,900	247,600	76,300
	Quarter 4	3,342,700	1,743,400	1,667,500	779,000	564,600	233,100	81,900
2010	Quarter 1	3,227,100	1,703,800	1,422,600	647,600	517,400	231,000	80,100
	Quarter 2	2,999,900	1,569,500	1,440,300	675,700	450,300	213,500	70,800
	Quarter 3	3,230,600	1,704,100	1,544,600	697,300	520,400	233,200	79,000
	Quarter 4	3,116,500	1,556,100	1,610,600	706,500	566,300	259,500	88,800
2011	Quarter 1	3,224,200	1,547,400	1,578,400	697,700	559,300	256,200	91,300
	Quarter 2	3,266,800	1,635,200	1,636,700	731,200	554,400	256,200	87,500
	Quarter 3	3,207,800	1,585,000	1,643,000	745,000	560,900	245,100	88,500

## Background Notes

**Periodicity** Quarterly - rolling three month release.

**Scope** Overseas Travel.

**Coverage** This release covers Overseas Travel into and out of the Republic of Ireland. However, travel by residents of Northern Ireland into or out of the Republic of Ireland or domestic travel within the Republic of Ireland is excluded.

**Data Collection** Data from the Country of Residence Survey (CRS) is used in this release. This survey is conducted at Dublin, Cork, Shannon, Knock, Galway and Kerry airports and Rosslare, Ringaskiddy, Dún Laoghaire and Dublin seaports. Residency data is collected from passengers by a Central Statistics Office (CSO) interviewer.

In addition to CRS data we also include residency data from the CSO's Passenger Card Inquiry (PCI), also conducted at airports and seaports. The PCI is a survey of passengers which in addition to residency, also collects information on the reason for the journey, area of residence, length of stay, expenditure and fare costs.

**Sample Design** A sample of flights and sailings is selected to facilitate proper representation of airport/seaport pairings, day, night, week day and weekend flights/sailings.

On the selected flights/sailings for the CRS, a 1 in 5 (20%) systematic sample of passengers is selected and their country of residence is recorded. In the PCI survey a sample of flights/sailings are selected and a PCI card is distributed to all passengers on these flights/sailings.

Sample results are grossed to total passenger numbers travelling for each airport or seaport pairing, as provided by the airports and ferry companies.

Where there is no survey coverage in a period for an airport/seaport pairing, results are imputed using the 'nearest neighbour' imputation methodology.

**Sample Size** The sample size for the Overseas Travel release in respect of the three month period July - September 2011 was just over 185,400 passengers.

**Seasonal Adjustment** Seasonally adjusted quarterly data is available in Table 8. 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.

Seasonal adjustment is conducted using the direct seasonal adjustment approach. Under this approach each individual series is independently adjusted each month, e.g. aggregate series are adjusted without reference to the component series. Seasonal adjustment models are developed for each series based on unadjusted data from January 2000 to the current period. These models are then applied to the entire series. Seasonal factors are updated each quarter.

The adjustments are completed by applying the X-12-ARIMA model, developed by the U.S. Census Bureau to the unadjusted data. This methodology estimates seasonal factors while also taking into consideration factors that impact on the quality of the seasonal adjustment such as:

- Calendar effects, e.g. the timing of Easter (see definition (4) on page 10)
- Outliers, temporary changes and level shifts in the series



**Reliability of Results**

Estimation of survey results using the above sampling design introduces a statistical variability which would not be present if *all* passengers from *every* flight/sailing had been sampled. This means that the survey results are best estimates based on the information collected for the sample.

This variability is expressed by the standard error calculation. The 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.

The effect of sampling error is greater for small estimates and may, in particular, make it more difficult to compare figures for different time periods. Standard error estimates in respect of the major Area of Residence categories for Quarter 1 to Quarter 3 2011 calendar quarters are presented in the following tables.

Overseas trips to Ireland by Area of Residence

Q1 2011	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Total trips	1,270,107	564,337	399,013	153,570	60,699
Standard error	4,081	2,867	2,841	1,753	1,297
Standard error as % of estimate	0.32	0.51	0.71	1.14	2.14

Overseas trips to Ireland by Area of Residence

Q2 2011	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Total trips	1,770,966	761,009	620,673	308,757	91,154
Standard error	4,252	2,814	3,147	2,110	1,359
Standard error as % of estimate	0.24	0.37	0.51	0.68	1.49

Overseas trips to Ireland by Area of Residence

Q3 2011	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Total trips	1,987,229	910,502	741,846	349,980	123,835
Standard error	5,143	3,338	3,942	2,546	1,742
Standard error as % of estimate	0.26	0.37	0.53	0.73	1.41

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 usual in surveys such as this, may introduce some slight bias into the results. Moreover, although every effort was made to ensure that the information collected is correct, it is possible that some minor non-sampling errors remain undetected.

## Definitions

- (1) Trips** The data presented in this report is in terms of trip numbers. A trip is defined as a journey (usually including the return) from one place to another.
- (2) Visitor** The definition of Visitor used in these surveys is based on that agreed with Eurostat, the European Statistical Office. A Visitor is defined as '*any person travelling to a place other than that of his/her usual environment for less than twelve months and whose main purpose is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited*'. However, as the CRS 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 a country cannot be excluded. Therefore, trips may include those travelling for paid work. Commercial Drivers travelling on sea routes are excluded.
- (3) Country of Residence** Country of Residence is defined as the country in which the person has resided during the past year.
- (4) Timing of Easter** Easter falls each year on a Sunday between March 22<sup>nd</sup> and April 25<sup>th</sup>, inclusively. In 2011 Easter Sunday fell on April 24<sup>th</sup>, while in 2010 it fell on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Visitor numbers each year are greatly influenced by when Easter falls.

### Dates for Easter Sunday

2011 - 24<sup>th</sup> April  
 2010 - 4<sup>th</sup> April  
 2009 - 12<sup>th</sup> April

## Country Breakdowns

### **Other Europe Tables 1-4, 6 and 8**

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	

Other countries included are:

Aland Islands	Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of
Albania	Moldova, Republic of
Andorra	Monaco
Belarus	Montenegro
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Norway
Croatia	Russian Federation
Faroe Islands	San Marino

Gibraltar	Serbia
Guernsey	Switzerland
Iceland	Turkey
Isle of Man	Ukraine
Jersey	Vatican City
Liechtenstein	

**North America  
Tables 1-4, 6 and 8**

North America includes the following countries:

Canada  
United States

**Other Areas  
Tables 1-4, 6 and 8**

Other Areas includes the following countries:

Africa (see page 12 for breakdown of countries)  
Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania (see below for breakdown of countries)  
Central, South and Other Americas (see page 12 for breakdown of countries)  
Eastern Asia, Middle East and Other Asia (see page 13 for breakdown of countries)

**Other Europe  
Tables 5 and 7**

Other Europe includes the following countries:

Aland Islands	Latvia
Albania	Liechtenstein
Andorra	Lithuania
Austria	Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of
Belarus	Malta
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Moldova, Republic of
Bulgaria	Monaco
Croatia	Montenegro
Cyprus	Poland
Czech Republic	Portugal
Estonia	Romania
Faroe Islands	Russian Federation
Gibraltar	San Marino
Greece	Serbia
Guernsey	Slovakia
Hungary	Slovenia
Iceland	Switzerland
Isle of Man	Turkey
Jersey	Ukraine
	Vatican City

**Australia,  
New Zealand and  
Other Oceania  
Tables 5 and 7**

Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania includes the following countries:

American Samoa	New Zealand
Australia	Niue
Antarctica	Norfolk Island
Christmas Island	Northern Mariana Island
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Palau
Cook Islands	Papua New Guinea
Fiji	Pitcairn
French Polynesia	Samoa
French Southern Territories	Solomon Islands
Guam	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
Heard Island and McDonald Islands	Svalbard and Jan Mayen
Kiribati	Tokelau
Marshall Islands	Tonga
Micronesia, Federated States of	Tuvalu
Nauru	United States Minor Outlying Islands
New Caledonia	Vanuatu
	Wallis and Futuna

**Other Areas  
Tables 5 and 7**

Other Areas includes the following group of countries:

**Central, South and  
Other Americas**

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 Grenadine
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	

**Africa**

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	South Africa
Gambia	Sudan
Ghana	Swaziland
Guinea	Tanzania, United Republic of
Guinea-Bissau	Togo
Kenya	Tunisia
Lesotho	Uganda
Liberia	Western Sahara
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Zambia
	Zimbabwe

<b>Eastern Asia</b>	China	Korea, Democratic People's Republic of
	Hong Kong	Mongolia
	Japan	Taiwan, Province of China
	Korea, Republic of	
<b>Middle East</b>	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	
<b>Other Asia</b>	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