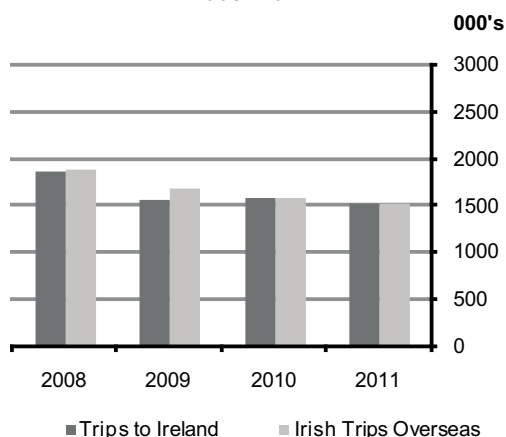




An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh
Central Statistics Office

9 January 2012

Overseas Travel September - November, 2008 - 2011



Overseas Travel September - November 2011

	Irish		by Area of Residence			
	Residents'	Trips	Great	Other	North	Other
	Trips	to				
	Overseas	Ireland	Britain	Europe	America	Areas
Sep-Nov '09	1,684,400	1,567,000	759,000	511,000	221,900	75,200
Sep-Nov '10	1,580,900	1,584,600	712,100	528,700	254,200	89,600
Sep-Nov '11	1,522,200	1,519,300	697,600	513,300	224,500	83,900
Jan-Nov '09	6,632,000	6,453,900	3,024,400	2,223,100	925,800	280,600
Jan-Nov '10	6,227,600	5,621,000	2,533,100	1,907,900	886,200	293,900
Jan-Nov '11	5,979,700	6,001,100	2,670,200	2,071,000	935,900	324,000

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Trips to Ireland decreased by over 4% for the period September - November 2011

In the period September to November 2011, the total number of *trips to Ireland* decreased by 4.1% to 1,519,300, an overall decrease of 65,300 compared to the same period twelve months earlier. *See tables 1 and 2.*

Trips by residents of North America decreased by 11.7% to 224,500 while trips by residents of Other Areas decreased by 6.4% to 83,900. Visitors from European Countries other than Great Britain (Other Europe) decreased by 2.9% to 513,300 while visitors from Great Britain decreased by 2.0%. *See tables 1 and 2.*

The total number of *overseas trips made by Irish residents* decreased by 3.7% to 1,522,200 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 September to November 2011 decreased by 3.9% to 3,041,500 when compared with the same period in 2010. September to November 2010 saw a drop of 2.6% 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 October 2011 inclusive. November passenger figures will be available from February 1st, 2012. 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 September - November, 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	Sept - Nov	3,722,700	1,871,000	1,851,800	903,500	632,500	227,000	88,800
2009	Sept - Nov	3,251,400	1,684,400	1,567,000	759,000	511,000	221,900	75,200
2010	Sept - Nov	3,165,400	1,580,900	1,584,600	712,100	528,700	254,200	89,600
2011	Sept - Nov	3,041,500	1,522,200	1,519,300	697,600	513,300	224,500	83,900

Table 2 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for the period September - November, 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	Sept - Nov	-471,300	-186,600	-284,800	-144,500	-121,500	-5,100	-13,600
2010	Sept - Nov	-86,000	-103,500	17,600	-46,900	17,700	32,300	14,400
2011	Sept - Nov	-123,900	-58,700	-65,300	-14,500	-15,400	-29,700	-5,700
Change versus corresponding period of previous year (%)								
2009	Sept - Nov	-12.7	-10.0	-15.4	-16.0	-19.2	-2.2	-15.3
2010	Sept - Nov	-2.6	-6.1	1.1	-6.2	3.5	14.6	19.1
2011	Sept - Nov	-3.9	-3.7	-4.1	-2.0	-2.9	-11.7	-6.4

Table 3 Overseas Trips for the period January - November, 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	14,721,300	7,386,200	7,335,100	3,606,400	2,449,800	950,300	328,600
2009	13,085,900	6,632,000	6,453,900	3,024,400	2,223,100	925,800	280,600
2010	11,848,600	6,227,600	5,621,000	2,533,100	1,907,900	886,200	293,900
2011	11,980,800	5,979,700	6,001,100	2,670,200	2,071,000	935,900	324,000

Table 4 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for the period January - November, 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 November total (number)							
2009	-1,635,400	-754,200	-881,200	-582,000	-226,700	-24,500	-48,000
2010	-1,237,300	-404,400	-832,900	-491,300	-315,200	-39,600	13,300
2011	132,200	-247,900	380,100	137,100	163,100	49,700	30,100
Annual change in year to November total (%)							
2009	-11.1	-10.2	-12.0	-16.1	-9.3	-2.6	-14.6
2010	-9.5	-6.1	-12.9	-16.2	-14.2	-4.3	4.7
2011	1.1	-4.0	6.8	5.4	8.5	5.6	10.2

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

Area of Residence ¹	September - November			
	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total Overseas Trips to Ireland	1,851,800	1,567,000	1,584,600	1,519,300
Great Britain	903,500	759,000	712,100	697,600
Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg	56,500	52,900	56,600	57,600
France	92,900	71,200	79,400	81,900
Germany	117,800	97,700	97,400	103,600
Italy	53,900	62,000	55,000	49,200
Spain	53,600	54,500	58,600	52,900
Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark	62,600	46,300	49,200	47,200
Other Europe ²	195,300	126,400	132,500	120,900
USA and Canada	227,000	221,900	254,200	224,500
Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania ²	42,400	33,800	37,600	34,100
Other Areas ²	46,400	41,400	52,000	49,900

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

² 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 ¹	2010	2010				2011		
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3
Total Overseas Trips to Ireland	6,037,100	1,084,800	1,541,400	1,996,600	1,414,300	1,177,600	1,781,600	2,126,200
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 ²	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 ²	135,300	19,200	33,100	49,900	33,100	20,300	39,600	54,400
Other Areas ²	182,500	35,100	42,100	60,300	45,000	40,400	51,600	69,500

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

² 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						
		All Trips	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland				
					Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Period								
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 September - November 2011 was just over 145,600 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 22nd and April 25th, inclusively. In 2011 Easter Sunday fell on April 24th, while in 2010 it fell on April 4th. Visitor numbers each year are greatly influenced by when Easter falls.

Dates for Easter Sunday

2011 - 24th April
 2010 - 4th April
 2009 - 12th 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

Eastern Asia	China	Korea, Democratic People's Republic of
	Hong Kong	Mongolia
	Japan	Taiwan, Province of China
	Korea, Republic of	
Middle East	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	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