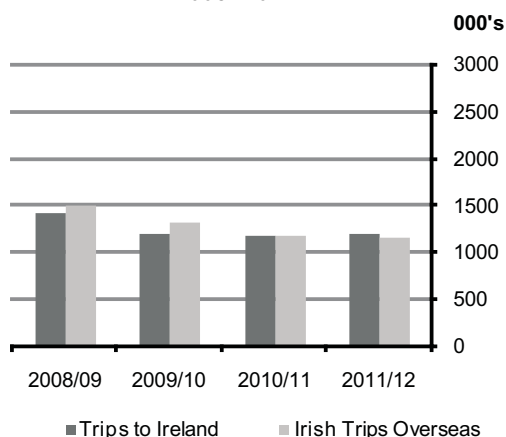




An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh
Central Statistics Office

2 March 2012

Overseas Travel November - January, 2008 - 2012



Overseas Travel November 2011 - January 2012

	Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence					
	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland				
			Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Nov '09-Jan '10	1,330,300	1,208,500	585,900	405,000	149,500	68,100
Nov '10-Jan '11	1,187,600	1,172,600	554,500	392,600	150,000	75,500
Nov '11-Jan '12	1,169,100	1,195,400	580,800	404,400	141,900	68,400

Trips to Ireland increased by 1.9% for the period November 2011 - January 2012

In the period November 2011 - January 2012, the total number of *trips to Ireland* increased by 1.9% to 1,195,400, an overall increase of 22,800 compared to the same period twelve months earlier. *See tables 1 and 2.*

Trips by residents of Great Britain to Ireland increased by 4.7% to 580,800 while trips by residents of European Countries other than Great Britain (Other Europe) increased by 3.0% to 404,400. Visitors from North America decreased by 5.4% to 141,900 while visitors from Other Areas decreased by 9.4%. The total number of *overseas trips made by Irish residents* decreased by 1.6% to 1,169,100. *See tables 1 and 2.*

The total number of trips (Irish residents' trips overseas plus trips to Ireland) in the period November 2011 to January 2012 increased by 0.2% to 2,364,600 when compared with the same period twelve months earlier. For the period November 2010 to January 2011, there was an annual decrease of 7.0% in the total number of trips taken when compared to the previous corresponding period. 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 December 2011 inclusive. January passenger figures will be available from early April 2012. For details please go to <http://cso.ie/shorturl.aspx/15>.

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Table 1 Overseas Trips for the period November - January, 2008 - 2012

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
Nov 08 - Jan 09	2,925,600	1,498,400	1,427,200	735,500	480,100	147,800	63,800
Nov 09 - Jan 10	2,538,800	1,330,300	1,208,500	585,900	405,000	149,500	68,100
Nov 10 - Jan 11	2,360,200	1,187,600	1,172,600	554,500	392,600	150,000	75,500
Nov 11 - Jan 12	2,364,600	1,169,100	1,195,400	580,800	404,400	141,900	68,400

Table 2 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for the period November - January, 2009 - 2012

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)							
Nov 09 - Jan 10	-386,800	-168,100	-218,700	-149,600	-75,100	1,700	4,300
Nov 10 - Jan 11	-178,600	-142,700	-35,900	-31,400	-12,400	500	7,400
Nov 11 - Jan 12	4,400	-18,500	22,800	26,300	11,800	-8,100	-7,100
Change versus corresponding period of previous year (%)							
Nov 09 - Jan 10	-13.2	-11.2	-15.3	-20.3	-15.6	1.2	6.7
Nov 10 - Jan 11	-7.0	-10.7	-3.0	-5.4	-3.1	0.3	10.9
Nov 11 - Jan 12	0.2	-1.6	1.9	4.7	3.0	-5.4	-9.4

Table 3 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence for the period November - January, 2008 - 2012

Area of Residence ¹	November - January			
	Nov 08 - Jan 09	Nov 09 - Jan 10	Nov 10 - Jan 11	Nov 11 - Jan 12
Total Overseas Trips to Ireland	1,427,200	1,208,500	1,172,600	1,195,400
Great Britain	735,500	585,900	554,500	580,800
Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg	49,500	41,400	46,300	49,100
France	69,100	52,000	61,600	64,600
Germany	79,500	58,300	59,600	69,300
Italy	44,200	45,000	37,400	35,500
Spain	48,500	47,800	43,200	44,700
Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark	31,200	28,700	32,800	29,600
Other Europe ²	158,100	131,900	111,600	111,600
USA and Canada	147,800	149,500	150,000	141,900
Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania ²	25,600	24,900	28,300	24,700
Other Areas ²	38,200	43,200	47,200	43,700

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 4 Overseas Trips in each calendar quarter, 2008 - 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
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	2,941,900	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	4,314,400	2,137,100	2,177,300	956,100	757,600	356,400	107,300
	Quarter 4	2,918,900	1,472,900	1,446,100	720,100	477,800	176,800	71,500
2010	Quarter 1	2,523,900	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	2,445,200	1,266,400	1,178,800	550,700	407,800	154,700	65,600
	Quarter 2	3,558,000	1,753,000	1,805,000	760,700	647,500	303,800	92,900
	Quarter 3	4,114,100	1,962,400	2,151,700	911,600	763,200	352,400	124,600
	Quarter 4	2,680,700	1,311,000	1,369,700	655,200	464,700	176,200	73,600

Table 5 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence, 2010 - 2011

Area of Residence ¹	2010	2011	2010				2011			
			Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Total Overseas Trips to Ireland	6,037,100	6,505,200	1,084,800	1,541,400	1,996,600	1,414,300	1,178,800	1,805,000	2,151,700	1,369,700
Great Britain	2,738,500	2,878,100	526,600	701,700	852,600	657,600	550,700	760,700	911,600	655,200
Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg	200,100	235,100	35,500	49,200	64,500	51,100	47,500	59,600	71,500	56,400
France	342,500	401,500	54,000	92,800	119,900	75,700	68,700	126,500	136,700	69,600
Germany	377,300	422,900	58,400	104,900	135,500	78,500	66,300	123,100	143,000	90,600
Italy	221,800	220,100	43,400	39,600	90,700	48,100	38,000	55,700	83,800	42,700
Spain	221,300	244,900	35,600	52,900	80,000	52,800	46,400	59,600	88,400	50,400
Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark	164,500	181,700	25,500	41,400	55,800	41,800	31,400	50,800	58,400	41,100
Other Europe ²	517,700	577,100	114,200	119,700	154,600	129,300	109,400	172,300	181,400	114,000
USA and Canada	935,600	987,100	137,300	264,000	332,800	201,400	154,700	303,800	352,400	176,200
Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania ²	135,300	141,100	19,200	33,100	49,900	33,100	21,400	38,200	54,600	26,900
Other Areas ²	182,500	215,600	35,100	42,100	60,300	45,000	44,200	54,700	70,000	46,600

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 - Seasonally Adjusted, 2008 - 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
2008	Quarter 1	4,086,900	2,065,300	1,987,800	997,700	640,600	262,000	85,300
	Quarter 2	3,995,700	1,948,500	2,039,700	1,014,200	663,100	261,600	91,200
	Quarter 3	3,853,100	1,946,300	1,894,000	927,800	632,300	245,600	89,800
	Quarter 4	3,795,800	1,942,400	1,925,400	924,500	681,700	237,600	83,200
2009	Quarter 1	3,792,400	1,843,900	1,885,000	898,700	668,200	238,100	73,300
	Quarter 2	3,515,700	1,773,600	1,746,400	819,600	591,200	256,700	76,000
	Quarter 3	3,375,200	1,711,300	1,669,500	779,500	570,900	245,800	76,400
	Quarter 4	3,357,000	1,739,500	1,676,900	777,700	573,800	236,800	81,600
2010	Quarter 1	3,229,100	1,700,700	1,421,400	651,000	513,200	228,400	79,800
	Quarter 2	2,990,300	1,571,000	1,436,700	673,700	447,700	213,700	70,900
	Quarter 3	3,219,500	1,707,700	1,538,900	696,100	520,000	231,000	79,000
	Quarter 4	3,142,800	1,552,000	1,624,800	705,500	577,500	265,700	88,900
2011	Quarter 1	3,223,700	1,539,900	1,578,400	685,000	566,700	255,000	97,500
	Quarter 2	3,258,200	1,621,500	1,653,300	729,500	573,700	254,500	89,300
	Quarter 3	3,191,300	1,568,400	1,655,600	744,300	576,200	244,100	89,000
	Quarter 4	3,110,400	1,546,900	1,589,900	709,300	563,700	235,000	83,500

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.
Publication of data	The data in the tables are rounded individually for each period and therefore the sum of the individual components may not be the same as the aggregate.
Sample Design	<p>A sample of flights and sailings is selected to facilitate proper representation of airport/seaport pairings, day, night, week day and weekend flights/sailings.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Sample results are grossed to total passenger numbers travelling for each airport or seaport pairing, as provided by the airports and ferry companies.</p> <p>Where there is no survey coverage in a period for an airport/seaport pairing, results are imputed using the 'nearest neighbour' imputation methodology.</p>
Sample Size	The sample size for the Overseas Travel release in respect of the three month period November 2011 - January 2012 was just over 85,900 passengers.
Seasonal Adjustment	<p>Seasonally adjusted quarterly data is available in Table 6. 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calendar effects, e.g. the timing of Easter (see definition (4) on page 9) • 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 4 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	1,266,423	550,671	407,762	154,747	65,595
Standard error	5,030	3,612	3,415	2,192	1,679
Standard error as % of estimate	0.40	0.66	0.84	1.42	2.56

Overseas trips to Ireland by Area of Residence

Q2 2011	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Total trips	1,752,969	760,729	647,525	303,812	92,943
Standard error	5,393	3,628	3,892	2,730	1,768
Standard error as % of estimate	0.31	0.48	0.60	0.90	1.90

Overseas trips to Ireland by Area of Residence

Q3 2011	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Total trips	1,962,417	911,575	763,153	352,367	124,593
Standard error	5,725	3,811	4,270	2,956	1,981
Standard error as % of estimate	0.29	0.42	0.56	0.84	1.59

Overseas trips to Ireland by Area of Residence

Q4 2011	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Total trips	1,310,955	655,171	464,724	176,221	73,591
Standard error	4,445	3,163	3,074	1,994	1,451
Standard error as % of estimate	0.34	0.48	0.66	1.13	1.97

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 1-2, 4 and 6**

Other Europe includes the following countries:

EU 27 i.e.

Austria

Belgium

Bulgaria

Cyprus

Czech Republic

Denmark

Estonia

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

Hungary

Italy

Latvia

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Malta

Netherlands

Poland

Portugal

Romania

Slovakia

Slovenia

Spain

Sweden

Other countries included are:

Aland Islands

Albania

Andorra

Belarus

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Croatia

Faroe Islands

Gibraltar

Guernsey

Iceland

Isle of Man

Jersey

Liechtenstein

Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of

Moldova, Republic of

Monaco

Montenegro

Norway

Russian Federation

San Marino

Serbia

Switzerland

Turkey

Ukraine

Vatican City

**North America
Tables 1-2, 4 and 6**

North America includes the following countries:

Canada

United States

**Other Areas
Tables 1-2, 4 and 6**

Other Areas includes the following countries:

Africa (see page 12 for breakdown of countries)

Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania (see page 11 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 3 and 5**

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 3 and 5**

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

American Samoa	New Zealand
Australia	Niue
Antarctica	Norfolk Island
Christmas Island	Northern Mariana Islands
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 3 and 5**

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 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	

Africa

Algeria	Malawi
Angola	Mali
Benin	Mauritania
Botswana	Mauritius
Burkina Faso	Mayotte
Burundi	Morocco
Cameroon	Mozambique
Cape Verde	Namibia
Central African Republic	Niger
Chad	Nigeria
Comoros	Reunion
Congo	Rwanda
Congo, The Democratic Republic of the	Saint Helena
Cote d'Ivoire	Sao Tome and Principe
Djibouti	Senegal
Egypt	Seychelles
Equatorial Guinea	Sierra Leone
Eritrea	Somalia
Ethiopia	South Africa
Gabon	South Sudan
Gambia	Sudan
Ghana	Swaziland
Guinea	Tanzania, United Republic of
Guinea-Bissau	Togo
Kenya	Tunisia
Lesotho	Uganda
Liberia	Western Sahara
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Zambia
Madagascar	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