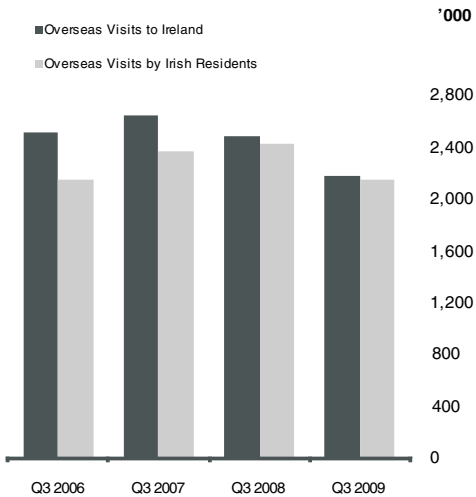




## Tourism and Travel

### Quarter 3 2009

#### Number of Visits Q3, 2006-2009



	Visits to Ireland '000	Irish Visits Abroad '000
<b>Jul - Sep 2006</b>	2,506	2,146
<b>Jul - Sep 2007</b>	2,646	2,356
<b>Jul - Sep 2008</b>	2,472	2,428
<b>Jul - Sep 2009</b>	2,177	2,137

#### Irish holidays abroad down by 17%

The number of visits abroad from July to September 2009 by Irish residents was 2,137,000, a decrease of 12% on the corresponding period in 2008. Trips for the purpose of holiday/leisure and recreation fell by the largest amount, a decrease of 279,000 (-17%). Trips visiting friends/relatives increased by 3%. See Table 9(b) and Graph.

This is the first time since 1991 that the number of trips abroad by Irish residents fell in the period July to September compared to the same period in the previous year.

In the third quarter of 2009, 2,177,000 overseas visits were made to Ireland compared with 2,472,000 in the same period of 2008, a decrease of 12%. Trips for business purposes decreased by 24% while trips visiting friends/relatives increased by 7%. See Table 1(b) and Graph.

The largest decrease in the number of overseas visits to Ireland was by residents of Great Britain, which fell by 17%. The number of visits by residents of other European countries decreased by 10% while visits by residents of USA and Canada remained virtually unchanged from Q3 2008. See Table 1(b).

The expenditure figures for July - September 2009 show a net outflow of €691m. Earnings from visitors to Ireland accounted for €1,321m while expenditure by Irish visitors abroad amounted to €2,012m. See Table 15.

The Tourism figures in this release also show that:

- ◆ The number of nights spent in Ireland decreased by 22%. See Table 6.
- ◆ The number of nights spent in hotels fell by 16%, while nights spent in Guesthouses/B & Bs decreased by 33% compared to the same period in 2008. See Table 6.
- ◆ The average length of stay for visits to Ireland decreased to 9.0 nights compared to 10.1 in Q3 2008. See Table 5.

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**Table 1 (a) Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Estimated Number of Overseas Visits Classified by Route of Travel, Area of Residence and Reason for Journey**

'000

Visits	2008	2008				2009		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>7,839</b>	<b>1,542</b>	<b>2,159</b>	<b>2,472</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>1,402</b>	<b>1,902</b>	<b>2,177</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>								
Air Cross-Channel	3,690	822	960	1,065	843	724	822	868
Sea Cross-Channel	890	141	258	353	138	96	218	322
Continental European	2,656	480	756	836	583	497	682	757
Transatlantic	603	99	184	218	101	86	180	230
<b>Area of Residence</b>								
Great Britain	3,872	849	1,023	1,149	851	722	858	956
Other Europe	2,610	480	729	840	561	489	658	757
USA & Canada	1,005	156	312	357	179	142	305	356
Other Areas	352	57	95	126	73	49	80	107
<b>Reason for Journey</b>								
Business	1,334	310	336	330	359	287	271	250
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,698	665	1,119	1,277	637	543	895	1,074
Visit to Friends/Relatives	2,276	487	557	642	589	449	588	689
Other	531	80	147	224	80	123	147	164

**Table 1 (b) Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Estimated Number of Overseas Visits  
Classified by Route of Travel, Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, (Quarter 3)**

'000					
Visits	Jul - Sep				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>2,308</b>	<b>2,506</b>	<b>2,646</b>	<b>2,472</b>	<b>2,177</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>					
Air Cross-Channel	1,055	1,120	1,102	1,065	868
Sea Cross-Channel	467	418	439	353	322
Continental European	561	730	854	836	757
Transatlantic	224	238	252	218	230
<b>Area of Residence</b>					
Great Britain	1,196	1,240	1,269	1,149	956
Other Europe	662	755	874	840	757
USA & Canada	350	398	390	357	356
Other Areas	100	113	113	126	107
<b>Reason for Journey</b>					
Business	229	276	323	330	250
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	1,313	1,390	1,430	1,277	1,074
Visit to Friends/Relatives	616	655	699	642	689
Other	149	186	194	224	164

**Table 2 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents distinguishing Same-Day Visits**

'000								
Visits	2008	2008				2009		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>7,839</b>	<b>1,542</b>	<b>2,159</b>	<b>2,472</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>1,402</b>	<b>1,902</b>	<b>2,177</b>
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)	551	86	150	155	159	94	144	138
Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland	7,288	1,456	2,009	2,317	1,506	1,308	1,758	2,039

**Table 3 Overseas Same-Day Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, Jul - Sep 2009**

'000

Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
<b>Total Same-Day Visits (i.e. no overnight in Ireland)</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>Area of Residence</b>					
Great Britain	38	17	13	2	71
Other Europe	5	9	6	6	26
USA & Canada	2	20	11	6	39
Other Areas	0	1	0	1	3

**Table 4 Overseas Visits to Ireland by Non-Residents, with at least one overnight in Ireland - Classified by Area of Residence and Reason for Journey, Jul - Sep 2009**

'000

Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
<b>Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>1,027</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>2,039</b>
<b>Area of Residence</b>					
Great Britain	110	342	419	14	885
Other Europe	62	418	132	120	731
USA & Canada	23	213	71	11	317
Other Areas	11	54	37	3	105

**Table 5 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	2008	2008				2009			
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
<b>Total Visits with at least one overnight in Ireland</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	
<b>Route of Travel</b>									
Air Cross-Channel	5.1	4.3	4.7	6.3	4.6	4.4	5.6	6.6	
Sea Cross-Channel	8.7	8.2	8.2	9.3	8.7	7.9	9.6	9.3	
Continental European	11.6	9.9	10.2	14.9	9.9	9.1	12.5	11.0	
Transatlantic	10.2	8.9	10.4	10.5	10.4	8.6	10.0	10.7	
<b>Area of Residence</b>									
Great Britain	4.8	4.1	4.6	6.1	4.1	4.1	5.2	6.4	
Other Europe	11.4	9.7	10.2	14.5	9.7	8.5	13.0	10.7	
USA & Canada	9.3	8.1	9.1	9.6	9.9	9.0	9.0	9.2	
Other Areas	15.2	15.5	13.3	16.5	15.3	15.8	14.1	17.9	
<b>Reason for Journey</b>									
Business	4.7	3.8	4.9	5.6	4.3	4.2	7.3	5.9	
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	7.1	5.6	6.7	8.6	6.5	5.3	7.3	8.3	
Visit to Friends/Relatives	8.3	8.6	7.5	9.3	7.6	8.0	7.6	9.0	
Other	23.0	15.6	21.5	26.5	23.2	12.4	28.4	17.7	

**Table 6 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	2008				2009			
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
<b>Accommodation</b>	<b>59,337</b>	<b>9,826</b>	<b>15,316</b>	<b>23,335</b>	<b>10,860</b>	<b>8,618</b>	<b>15,764</b>	<b>18,253</b>	
Hotel	13,584	2,421	3,972	4,892	2,300	1,931	2,994	4,125	
Guest house/B&B	5,469	504	1,853	2,406	706	404	1,713	1,621	
Rented house/Apartment	12,452	1,888	3,083	5,078	2,402	1,804	3,632	2,981	
Caravan/Camping	778	33	198	516	31	10	416	457	
Hostel	1,704	232	574	526	372	333	432	539	
Friends/Relatives	17,846	3,911	3,982	5,978	3,975	3,263	4,423	6,712	
Other	7,503	836	1,655	3,939	1,074	872	2,154	1,817	

**Table 7 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	2008				2009		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>17,057</b>	<b>3,261</b>	<b>4,330</b>	<b>6,460</b>	<b>3,007</b>	<b>2,696</b>	<b>4,061</b>	<b>5,666</b>
Hotel	4,770	1,157	1,249	1,377	987	836	1,028	1,115
Guest house/B&B	1,329	133	382	636	179	114	321	390
Rented house/Apartment	2,556	339	664	1,255	298	361	455	596
Caravan/Camping	234	15	72	128	19	7	106	107
Hostel	156	24	29	62	40	52	37	29
Friends/Relatives	6,957	1,458	1,564	2,602	1,334	1,213	1,769	3,119
Other	1,056	135	370	400	151	115	345	311
<b>Other Europe</b>	<b>28,608</b>	<b>4,516</b>	<b>7,175</b>	<b>11,727</b>	<b>5,189</b>	<b>4,001</b>	<b>8,221</b>	<b>7,787</b>
Hotel	5,019	669	1,609	2,014	726	618	1,102	1,573
Guest house/B&B	2,595	241	854	1,184	315	195	884	760
Rented house/Apartment	6,758	1,054	1,677	2,704	1,322	1,069	2,427	1,542
Caravan/Camping	522	18	123	369	12	3	299	334
Hostel	1,009	127	341	293	248	204	198	383
Friends/Relatives	7,246	1,847	1,527	2,041	1,831	1,282	1,712	1,896
Other	5,459	559	1,044	3,121	735	630	1,598	1,299
<b>USA &amp; Canada</b>	<b>8,532</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>2,618</b>	<b>3,118</b>	<b>1,597</b>	<b>1,177</b>	<b>2,382</b>	<b>2,920</b>
Hotel	3,106	499	934	1,230	444	379	701	1,172
Guest house/B&B	1,065	78	460	394	132	64	407	375
Rented house/Apartment	1,435	169	434	403	429	213	466	399
Caravan/Camping	9	0	1	8	0	0	8	8
Hostel	326	43	140	105	38	57	106	94
Friends/Relatives	1,794	289	429	636	439	378	553	755
Other	798	122	220	341	115	86	141	116
<b>Other Areas</b>	<b>5,139</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>1,193</b>	<b>2,030</b>	<b>1,067</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>1,101</b>	<b>1,880</b>
Hotel	690	96	180	270	144	99	163	265
Guest house/B&B	480	53	156	192	79	32	101	95
Rented house/Apartment	1,703	325	309	716	353	160	284	444
Caravan/Camping	13	0	2	11	0	0	3	8
Hostel	214	39	63	66	46	20	91	33
Friends/Relatives	1,849	317	462	698	371	391	390	942
Other	190	20	20	77	73	40	70	92

**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 and Reason for Journey, Jul - Sep 2009**

					'000
Bednights	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
<b>Accommodation Used</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>8,518</b>	<b>5,896</b>	<b>2,629</b>	<b>18,253</b>
Hotel	560	2,914	408	243	4,125
Guest house/B&B	43	1,257	275	46	1,621
Rented house/Apartment	360	1,449	383	789	2,981
Caravan/Camping	2	398	45	12	457
Hostel	10	444	36	49	539
Friends/Relatives	165	1,247	4,588	712	6,712
Other	71	809	161	777	1,817

**Table 9 (a) Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Number of Visits Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey**

'000

Visits	2008	2008				2009		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>7,877</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>2,051</b>	<b>2,428</b>	<b>1,636</b>	<b>1,540</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>2,137</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>								
Air Cross-Channel	2,468	642	609	613	604	585	571	604
Sea Cross-Channel	357	67	89	129	73	68	122	156
Continental European	4,533	944	1,238	1,544	806	782	1,105	1,281
Transatlantic	520	109	115	142	152	104	102	97
<b>Reason for Journey</b>								
Business	922	229	283	189	220	193	183	166
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	4,824	1,044	1,243	1,642	894	880	1,136	1,363
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,804	423	445	503	433	362	443	516
Other	328	67	79	94	88	104	137	92

**Table 9 (b) Overseas Visits by Irish Residents - Estimated Number of Visits Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, (Quarter 3)**

'000

Visits	Jul - Sep				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>1,963</b>	<b>2,146</b>	<b>2,356</b>	<b>2,428</b>	<b>2,137</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>					
Air Cross-Channel	566	550	574	613	604
Sea Cross-Channel	118	129	108	129	156
Continental European	1,183	1,363	1,548	1,544	1,281
Transatlantic	95	104	126	142	97
<b>Reason for Journey</b>					
Business	182	201	174	189	166
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	1,252	1,325	1,599	1,642	1,363
Visit to Friends/Relatives	392	485	465	503	516
Other	137	135	118	94	92



**Table 10 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents distinguishing Same-Day Visits**

'000

Visits	2008	2008				2009		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>7,877</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>2,051</b>	<b>2,428</b>	<b>1,636</b>	<b>1,540</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>2,137</b>
Same-day visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)	201	42	76	41	42	50	44	43
Visits with at least one overnight abroad	7,676	1,721	1,975	2,387	1,593	1,490	1,855	2,094

**Table 11 Overseas Same-Day Visits by Irish Residents - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey**

'000

Visits	2008	2008				2009		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
<b>Total Overseas Visits</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>								
Air Cross-Channel	119	33	42	15	28	39	25	31
Sea Cross-Channel	21	1	7	9	4	4	6	1
Continental European	59	7	27	16	9	6	12	11
Transatlantic	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
<b>Reason for Journey</b>								
Business	93	24	40	13	16	30	16	17
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	70	8	29	19	15	9	10	13
Visit to Friends/Relatives	31	9	5	8	10	9	13	6
Other	7	1	2	2	2	1	5	8

**Table 12 Overseas Same-Day Visits by Irish Residents - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, Jul - Sep 2009**

'000					
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
<b>Total Same-Day Visits (i.e. no overnight abroad)</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>					
Air Cross-Channel	14	5	5	6	31
Sea Cross-Channel	-	1	-	-	1
Continental European	2	7	1	1	11
Transatlantic	1	-	-	-	1

**Table 13 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents, with at least one overnight abroad - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey, Jul - Sep 2009**

'000					
Visits	Reason for Journey				Total
	Business	Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation	Visit to Friends/ Relatives	Other	
<b>Total Visits with at least one overnight abroad</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2,094</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>					
Air Cross-Channel	68	263	215	27	573
Sea Cross-Channel	6	71	68	10	155
Continental European	62	966	197	46	1,270
Transatlantic	14	50	31	1	96

**Table 14 Overseas Visits by Irish Residents, with at least one overnight abroad - Estimated Average Length of Stay (Nights) - Classified by Route of Travel and Reason for Journey**

	Nights							
Length of Stay	2008	2008				2009		
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
<b>All Overseas Visits</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>11.4</b>
<b>Route of Travel</b>								
Air Cross-Channel	8.1	7.0	6.5	10.3	8.6	7.0	7.4	10.5
Sea Cross-Channel	7.7	7.2	7.9	8.7	6.3	5.6	8.5	10.6
Continental European	8.5	7.4	7.5	10.5	7.3	7.7	8.8	11.2
Transatlantic	11.0	10.3	9.9	14.8	8.8	9.4	10.7	20.7
<b>Reason for Journey</b>								
Business	6.5	4.9	5.0	8.8	8.1	5.9	8.0	13.8
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	8.5	7.2	7.6	10.8	7.2	7.4	8.2	11.3
Visit to Friends/Relatives	8.8	9.1	7.5	10.1	8.5	9.3	9.1	10.8
Other	11.1	9.0	10.0	13.5	11.2	4.3	9.7	12.2

**Table 15 Tourism and Travel Estimated Earnings and Expenditure**

€ million

Period	Earnings from all Visits to Ireland <sup>1</sup>	Expenditure by all Irish Visitors abroad <sup>2</sup>	Balance <sup>3</sup>
2003 Year	4,057	4,158	-101
2004 Year	4,065	4,179	-114
2005 Year	4,272	4,773	-501
2006 Year	4,692	5,318	-626
2007 Year	4,902	6,163	-1,261
2008 Year	4,781	6,912	-2,131
2003 January – March	641	739	-98
April – June	1,059	1,071	-12
July – September	1,495	1,536	-41
October – December	861	811	+50
2004 January – March	675	768	-93
April – June	1,113	1,048	+65
July – September	1,427	1,521	-93
October – December	850	842	+8
2005 January – March	712	876	-164
April – June	1,124	1,152	-28
July – September	1,506	1,710	-204
October – December	929	1,035	-106
2006 January – March	733	1,008	-276
April – June	1,231	1,312	-81
July – September	1,746	1,818	-71
October – December	982	1,180	-198
2007 January – March	819	1,143	-324
April – June	1,291	1,526	-235
July – September	1,768	2,098	-330
October – December	1,024	1,396	-373
2008 January – March	824	1,452	-628
April – June	1,313	1,627	-315
July – September	1,734	2,366	-632
October – December	911	1,467	-556
2009 January – March	694	1,300	-606
April – June	1,117	1,586	-468
July – September <sup>4</sup>	1,321	2,012	-691

<sup>1</sup> Expenditure (excluding international fares) plus passenger fare receipts of Irish carriers from visitors to Ireland<sup>2</sup> Expenditure (including international fares) less passenger fare payments by Irish visitors abroad to Irish carriers<sup>3</sup> + = Net inflow - = Net outflow<sup>4</sup> Provisional

## Background Notes

**Introduction** This quarterly series gives details on the number of overseas visits to Ireland and Irish visits abroad for the quarter. It provides data on the reason for journey, average length of stay (nights) and expenditure. The quarterly series supplements the annual release, which provides more extensive annual information on tourism and travel.

**Commercial Drivers** From the 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

The Country of Residence Survey is a continuous sample survey of passengers (both inward and outward) to provide 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 further categorised into the areas of residence shown in this release. The sample size for the Country of Residence Survey in Quarter 3 2009 was just under 102,700 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 for the Passenger Card Inquiry in Quarter 3 2009 was just under 72,500 passengers.