



Overseas Travel

May - July 2012

**Overseas Travel May - July,
2009 - 2012**



**Trips to Ireland
by Area of Residence**

	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Trips to Ireland	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
May - Jul '10	2,007,800	1,781,600	727,000	621,400	336,800	96,400
May - Jul '11	1,944,400	1,980,800	801,000	708,600	359,300	111,900
May - Jul '12	1,937,000	1,937,800	746,200	723,600	347,600	120,400
Jan - Jul '10	3,882,100	3,305,200	1,487,900	1,124,700	526,300	166,300
Jan - Jul '11	3,729,800	3,732,700	1,614,900	1,322,400	592,000	203,400
Jan - Jul '12	3,679,300	3,681,700	1,557,400	1,343,200	566,200	215,000

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)
0870 876 0256 (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: Pádraig Dalton

Enquiries:

Tourism statistics Tourism and Travel Section,
ext 5502
General queries Information Section, ext 5021
Email: information@cso.ie

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ISSN 1649-4997

Trips to Ireland decreased by 2.2% for the period May - July 2012

In the period May - July 2012, the total number of *trips to Ireland* decreased by 2.2% to 1,937,800 - an overall decrease of 43,000 compared to the same period twelve months earlier. *See tables 1 and 2.*

Trips by residents of Great Britain to Ireland decreased by 6.8% to 746,200. The number of visitors from North America decreased by 3.3% to 347,600. Visitors from European Countries other than Great Britain (Other Europe) increased by 2.1% to 723,600 while visitors from Other Areas increased by 7.6% to 120,400. *See tables 1 and 2.*

The total number of *overseas trips made by Irish residents* during the period May - July 2012 decreased by 0.4% to 1,937,000. *See tables 1 and 2.*

The total number of trips (Irish residents' trips overseas plus trips to Ireland) in the period May to July 2012 decreased by 1.3% to 3,874,900 when compared with the same period twelve months earlier. The period May to July 2011 saw an increase of 3.6% from the corresponding period in 2010. See tables 1 and 2.

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

Table 1 Overseas Trips for the period May - July, 2009 - 2012

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
2009	May - July	4,133,600	2,079,900	2,053,700	881,900	715,700	357,900	98,300
2010	May - July	3,789,300	2,007,800	1,781,600	727,000	621,400	336,800	96,400
2011	May - July	3,925,100	1,944,400	1,980,800	801,000	708,600	359,300	111,900
2012	May - July	3,874,900	1,937,000	1,937,800	746,200	723,600	347,600	120,400

Table 2 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for the period May - July, 2010 - 2012

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)								
2010	May - July	-344,300	-72,100	-272,100	-154,900	-94,300	-21,100	-1,900
2011	May - July	135,800	-63,400	199,200	74,000	87,200	22,500	15,500
2012	May - July	-50,200	-7,400	-43,000	-54,800	15,000	-11,700	8,500
Change versus corresponding period of previous year (%)								
2010	May - July	-8.3	-3.5	-13.2	-17.6	-13.2	-5.9	-1.9
2011	May - July	3.6	-3.2	11.2	10.2	14.0	6.7	16.1
2012	May - July	-1.3	-0.4	-2.2	-6.8	2.1	-3.3	7.6

Table 3 Overseas Trips for the period January - July, 2009 - 2012

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
2009	8,262,900	4,199,100	4,063,800	1,895,700	1,423,700	577,300	167,100
2010	7,187,300	3,882,100	3,305,200	1,487,900	1,124,700	526,300	166,300
2011	7,462,500	3,729,800	3,732,700	1,614,900	1,322,400	592,000	203,400
2012	7,361,000	3,679,300	3,681,700	1,557,400	1,343,200	566,200	215,000

Table 4 Annual Change in Overseas Trips for the period January - July, 2010 - 2012

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 July total (number)							
2010	-1,075,600	-317,000	-758,600	-407,800	-299,000	-51,000	-800
2011	275,200	-152,300	427,500	127,000	197,700	65,700	37,100
2012	-101,500	-50,500	-51,000	-57,500	20,800	-25,800	11,600
Annual change in year to July total (%)							
2010	-13.0	-7.5	-18.7	-21.5	-21.0	-8.8	-0.5
2011	3.8	-3.9	12.9	8.5	17.6	12.5	22.3
2012	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4	-3.6	1.6	-4.4	5.7

Table 5 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence for the period May - July, 2009 - 2012

Area of Residence ¹	May - July			
	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total Overseas Trips to Ireland	2,053,700	1,781,600	1,980,800	1,937,800
Great Britain	881,900	727,000	801,000	746,200
Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg	74,000	53,800	65,800	70,200
France	122,000	110,800	130,200	131,600
Germany	145,500	134,500	134,300	142,200
Italy	76,000	63,900	65,200	83,100
Spain	70,900	63,100	71,100	72,000
Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark	52,600	50,000	56,000	61,400
Other Europe ²	174,600	145,500	186,100	163,100
USA and Canada	357,900	336,800	359,300	347,600
Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania ²	42,800	43,100	47,000	51,800
Other Areas ²	55,400	53,300	64,900	68,600

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, 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	
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
2012	Quarter 1	2,399,900	1,234,800	1,165,100	562,400	392,800	144,700	65,200
	Quarter 2	3,544,700	1,727,500	1,817,300	735,200	672,400	305,700	104,000

Table 7 Overseas Trips to Ireland by Area of Residence, 2011 - 2012

Area of Residence ¹	2011	2011				2012	
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
Total Overseas Trips to Ireland	6,505,200	1,178,800	1,805,000	2,151,700	1,369,700	1,165,100	1,817,300
Great Britain	2,878,100	550,700	760,700	911,600	655,200	562,400	735,200
Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg	235,100	47,500	59,600	71,500	56,400	44,900	68,900
France	401,500	68,700	126,500	136,700	69,600	66,600	129,000
Germany	422,900	66,300	123,100	143,000	90,600	65,900	134,100
Italy	220,100	38,000	55,700	83,800	42,700	39,700	67,800
Spain	244,900	46,400	59,600	88,400	50,400	43,100	63,300
Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark	181,700	31,400	50,800	58,400	41,100	30,000	57,000
Other Europe ²	577,100	109,400	172,300	181,400	114,000	102,500	152,300
USA and Canada	987,100	154,700	303,800	352,400	176,200	144,700	305,700
Australia, New Zealand and Other Oceania ²	141,100	21,400	38,200	54,600	26,900	21,600	43,300
Other Areas ²	215,600	44,200	54,700	70,000	46,600	43,600	60,700

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 8 Overseas Trips in each calendar quarter - Seasonally Adjusted, 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	
2008	Quarter 1	4,092,900	2,071,000	1,991,000	998,600	637,600	263,200	84,800
	Quarter 2	3,988,500	1,945,400	2,039,600	1,013,700	661,600	261,400	91,100
	Quarter 3	3,853,100	1,944,200	1,891,800	927,600	634,300	245,500	89,900
	Quarter 4	3,800,700	1,942,300	1,925,300	924,400	683,500	236,600	83,600
2009	Quarter 1	3,801,300	1,853,700	1,893,600	900,200	663,600	240,800	72,700
	Quarter 2	3,505,900	1,768,400	1,743,500	818,900	589,500	255,800	75,800
	Quarter 3	3,374,600	1,708,700	1,666,800	779,400	574,000	246,000	76,400
	Quarter 4	3,366,700	1,739,000	1,676,200	777,600	575,100	235,000	82,100
2010	Quarter 1	3,238,700	1,718,500	1,432,600	652,800	511,600	232,200	79,000
	Quarter 2	2,977,100	1,561,300	1,431,700	671,500	445,800	212,900	70,700
	Quarter 3	3,218,700	1,704,200	1,535,900	695,700	522,800	231,300	79,100
	Quarter 4	3,156,900	1,551,000	1,623,200	705,100	576,400	262,800	89,500
2011	Quarter 1	3,236,500	1,562,900	1,597,500	688,400	569,000	260,000	96,300
	Quarter 2	3,239,600	1,607,400	1,643,600	727,500	568,900	252,800	88,700
	Quarter 3	3,188,200	1,565,200	1,652,400	743,700	578,400	244,800	89,100
	Quarter 4	3,131,900	1,545,700	1,588,000	708,700	562,900	232,000	84,100
2012	Quarter 1	3,180,200	1,508,800	1,580,200	706,100	552,300	238,900	95,300
	Quarter 2	3,221,600	1,594,900	1,657,800	702,000	589,100	253,600	100,900

Background Notes

Periodicity Monthly - 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.

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.

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 May - July 2012 was just over 122,600 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

Rounding Individual figures have been rounded independently and the sum of the component items may therefore not necessarily add to the totals shown.

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 and Quarter 2 2012 is presented in the following table

Overseas trips to Ireland by Area of Residence					
Q1 2012	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Total trips	1,234,757	562,424	392,777	144,724	65,206
Standard error	4,070	2,850	2,763	1,825	1,313
Standard error as % of estimate	0.33	0.51	0.70	1.26	2.01

Overseas trips to Ireland by Area of Residence					
Q2 2012	Irish Residents' Trips Overseas	Great Britain	Other Europe	North America	Other Areas
Total trips	1,727,450	735,168	672,429	305,717	103,975
Standard error	5,138	3,464	3,703	2,616	1,745
Standard error as % of estimate	0.30	0.47	0.55	0.86	1.68

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.

Airport Pairings

The CSO “Airport Pairings” database contains information on every direct flight in and out of the nine Irish airports on a monthly basis. July 2012 passenger figures will be added to the database from early October 2012. For details please go to <http://cso.ie/shorturl.aspx/15>.

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 2012 Easter Sunday fell on April 8th, while in 2011 it fell on April 24th. Visitor numbers each year are greatly influenced by when Easter falls.

Dates for Easter Sunday

2012 - 8th April
 2011 - 24th April
 2010 - 4th 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 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 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 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 5 and 7**

Other Areas includes the following group of countries:

**Central, South and
Other Americas**

Anguilla	Guatemala
Antigua and Barbuda	Guyana
Argentina	Haiti
Aruba	Honduras
Bahamas	Jamaica
Barbados	Martinique
Belize	Mexico
Bermuda	Montserrat
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

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
Libya	Zambia
Madagascar	Zimbabwe

Eastern Asia	China Hong Kong Japan Korea, Republic of	Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Mongolia Taiwan, Province of China
Middle East	Afghanistan Bahrain Iran, Islamic Republic of Iraq Israel Jordan Kuwait Lebanon	Oman Palestinian Territory, Occupied Qatar Saudi Arabia Syrian Arab Republic United Arab Emirates Yemen
Other Asia	Armenia Azerbaijan Bangladesh Bhutan British Indian Ocean Territory Brunei Darussalam Cambodia Georgia India Indonesia Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan Lao People's Democratic Republic Macao	Malaysia Maldives Myanmar Nepal Pakistan Philippines Singapore Sri Lanka Tajikistan Thailand Timor Leste Turkmenistan Uzbekistan Vietnam