



CSO statistical release, 12 December 2016, 11am

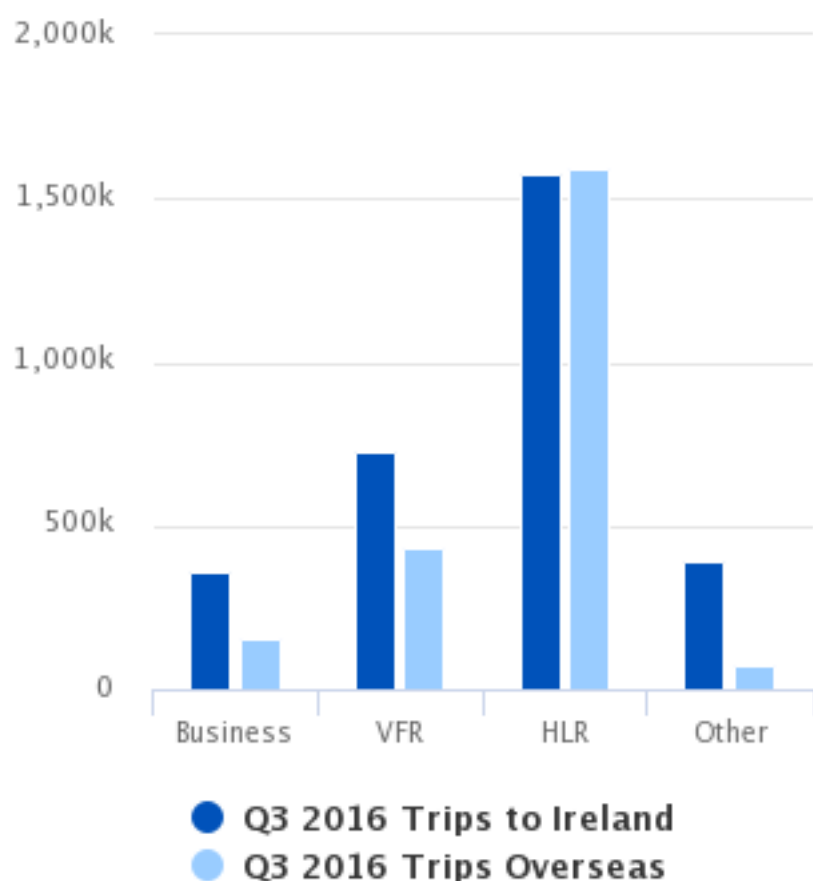
Tourism and Travel

Quarter 3 2016

Reason for journey	Overseas trips to Ireland '000		Trips by Irish residents overseas '000	
	Jul - Sep 2015	Jul - Sep 2016	Jul - Sep 2015	Jul - Sep 2016
Business	332	363	202	157
Visits to Friends/Relatives	640	730	419	430
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	1,485	1,574	1,515	1,589
Other	315	394	50	77
Total	2,771	3,062	2,186	2,253

Overseas trips to Ireland increased by 10.5% for the period July to September 2016

Number of trips by reason for journey -
Quarter 3 2016



The main results for Quarter 3 2016 are as follows:

Overseas trips to Ireland:

- The number of overseas trips to Ireland by non-residents increased from 2.771 million in Quarter 3 2015 to 3.062 million trips in Quarter 3 2016 (+10.5%). See *table 1*.
- The number of nights spent in Ireland by overseas travellers increased by 7.8% in Quarter 3 2016 compared with the same period of the previous year, up from 22.0 million to 23.7 million. See *table 4*.
- The average duration of overseas trips to Ireland fell from 7.9 nights in Quarter 3 2015 to 7.7 nights in Quarter 3 2016. See *table 6*.
- Total tourism and travel earnings from overseas travellers to Ireland increased by 10.0% between Quarter 3 2015 and Quarter 3 2016, increasing from €2,037 million to €2,241 million. When fares are excluded, total expenditure increased from €1,551 million to €1,693 million, an increase of 9.2% over the period. See *table 7*.

Trips by Irish residents overseas:

- In Quarter 3 2016, the number of trips made by Irish residents overseas increased by 3.0%, from 2.186 million trips in Quarter 3 2015 to 2.253 million. See *table 8*.
- The average duration of overseas trips made by Irish residents decreased from 9.5 nights in Quarter 3 2015 to 9.4 nights in Quarter 3 2016. See *table 9*.
- Total tourism and travel expenditure by Irish residents overseas increased by 5.4%, up from €1,680 million in Quarter 3 2015 to €1,771 million in Quarter 3 2016. When all fares are included, total expenditure on overseas trips increased by 6.4%, from €2,096 million to €2,231 million. See *table 10*.

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	'000									
Trips	2013	2014	2015	2015				2016		
				Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Total overseas trips to the Republic of Ireland	6,986	7,604	8,643	1,531	2,345	2,771	1,996	1,785	2,599	3,062
Trips by mode of travel										
Air	6,149	6,745	7,782	1,432	2,095	2,410	1,845	1,666	2,372	2,708
Sea	837	860	861	99	250	361	151	118	227	354
Trips by type										
Same-day trips	590	776	894	154	225	278	236	190	301	372
Overnight trips	6,396	6,828	7,749	1,378	2,120	2,493	1,760	1,594	2,298	2,689
Trips by route of travel										
Cross channel	3,725	3,931	4,379	900	1,129	1,318	1,033	1,003	1,260	1,426
Continental	2,534	2,780	3,076	500	897	998	680	611	968	1,102
Transatlantic & Other Routes	727	894	1,188	131	319	455	283	171	371	534
Trips by area of residence										
Great Britain	2,929	3,164	3,547	726	886	1,050	884	851	1,014	1,148
France	434	456	505	88	160	156	101	98	165	171
Germany	483	557	629	86	196	214	133	104	192	223
Italy	234	258	321	60	81	116	65	62	96	129
Other Europe	1,312	1,368	1,588	292	415	501	380	336	476	562
USA & Canada	1,158	1,329	1,514	191	468	550	305	238	520	638
Australia & New Zealand	187	190	207	31	55	76	46	31	51	73
All other areas	248	284	331	57	85	108	82	64	86	117
Trips by reason for journey										
Business	1,242	1,282	1,441	364	344	332	400	364	434	363
Visit to Friends/Relatives	2,015	2,209	2,297	488	588	640	582	555	632	730
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,059	3,324	4,001	538	1,184	1,485	795	691	1,257	1,574
Other	670	789	904	141	229	315	220	175	276	394

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Table 3 Percentage distribution of overseas same-day trips to Ireland by non-residents cross classified by area of residence and reason for journey, Quarter 3 2015 and Quarter 3 2016

Trips	Reason for journey ¹								Total	
	Business		Visit to Friends/Relatives		Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation		Other			
	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016
Total same-day trips (i.e. no overnight in Ireland) ('000s)	42	56	17	21	34	43	185	252	278	372
Area of residence (%)										
Great Britain	85	77	50	47	41	42	39	34	47	42
Other Europe	10	15	19	21	13	20	22	25	19	22
All other areas	5	7	31	32	46	38	39	41	34	35
All residencies	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

¹ The contents of this table should be interpreted with caution due to small sample sizes.

Table 3a Percentage distribution of overseas same-day trips to Ireland by non-residents cross classified by area of residence and reason for journey, Years 2014 and 2015

Trips	Reason for journey ¹									
	Business		Visit to Friends/Relatives		Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation		Other		Total	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Total same-day trips (i.e. no overnight in Ireland) ('000s)	193	189	47	59	64	93	473	552	776	894
Area of residence (%)										
Great Britain	82	83	59	52	44	43	34	36	48	48
Other Europe	12	12	16	20	15	15	26	24	21	20
All other areas	6	5	25	29	41	42	40	40	31	32
All residencies	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

¹ The contents of this table should be interpreted with caution due to small sample sizes.

Table 4 Number of bednights spent in Ireland by non-residents on overseas trips cross classified by type of accommodation used and area of residence, Quarter 3 2015 and Quarter 3 2016

'000										
Bednights	Area of Residence								Total	
	Great Britain		Other Europe		USA & Canada		All Other Areas			
	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016
Type of accommodation used										
Hotel	1,411	1,278	2,603	2,658	2,007	1,960	501	555	6,522	6,452
Guest House/B&B	362	434	1,743	1,977	693	919	242	272	3,040	3,602
Rented House/Apartment	569	468	1,443	1,466	320	447	359	601	2,690	2,983
Friends/Relatives	2,092	2,393	1,628	1,644	710	800	1,000	879	5,430	5,716
Other	883	1,112	2,353	2,882	536	582	513	349	4,285	4,926
Total	5,318	5,685	9,769	10,627	4,266	4,708	2,614	2,657	21,968	23,678

Table 4a Number of bednights spent in Ireland by non-residents on overseas trips cross classified by type of accommodation used and area of residence, Years 2014 and 2015

										'000
Bednights	Area of Residence								Total	
	Great Britain		Other Europe		USA & Canada		All Other Areas			
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Type of accommodation used										
Hotel	3,647	4,345	5,563	6,587	4,355	5,044	1,143	1,397	14,707	17,375
Guest House/B&B	682	884	2,783	3,629	1,242	1,589	464	627	5,171	6,729
Rented House/Apartment	1,174	1,299	4,449	5,045	1,086	1,605	1,144	1,478	7,852	9,429
Friends/Relatives	6,417	6,145	5,404	5,290	1,722	1,779	2,554	2,581	16,096	15,794
Other	2,423	2,497	5,925	6,303	1,431	1,640	1,272	1,460	11,051	11,900
Total	14,342	15,171	24,123	26,855	9,834	11,658	6,577	7,543	54,877	61,228

Table 5 Number of bednights spent in Ireland by non-residents on overseas trips cross classified by type of accommodation used and reason for journey, Quarter 3 2015 and Quarter 3 2016

										'000
Bednights	Reason for journey								Total	
	Business		Visit to Friends/Relatives		Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation		Other			
	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016
Type of accommodation used										
Hotel	818	915	572	575	5,003	4,784	129	177	6,522	6,452
Guest House/B&B	93	184	255	299	2,349	2,723	342	395	3,040	3,602
Rented House/Apartment	485	622	315	323	1,071	1,115	819	923	2,690	2,983
Friends/Relatives	275	262	3,714	3,978	1,149	1,244	292	233	5,430	5,716
Other	319	384	693	829	1,974	2,271	1,299	1,442	4,285	4,926
Total	1,991	2,366	5,550	6,004	11,546	12,137	2,881	3,171	21,968	23,678

Table 5a Number of bednights spent in Ireland by non-residents on overseas trips cross classified by type of accommodation used and reason for journey, Years 2014 and 2015

										'000
Bednights	Reason for journey									
	Business		Visit to Friends/Relatives		Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation		Other		Total	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Type of accommodation used										
Hotel	3,074	3,471	1,606	1,794	9,603	11,676	424	433	14,707	17,375
Guest House/B&B	347	401	578	663	3,445	4,645	801	1,021	5,171	6,729
Rented House/Apartment	1,691	1,811	650	863	1,805	2,217	3,705	4,538	7,852	9,429
Friends/Relatives	849	851	11,545	11,558	2,635	2,621	1,068	764	16,096	15,794
Other	1,182	1,109	2,058	1,959	4,290	4,812	3,521	4,020	11,051	11,900
Total	7,143	7,644	16,437	16,837	21,779	25,970	9,519	10,776	54,877	61,228

Table 6 Estimated average length of stay (nights) by non-residents on all overseas trips to Ireland classified by area of residence and reason for journey, 2013 - Quarter 3 2016

										Nights
Average length of stay	2013	2014	2015	2015				2016		
				Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
All overseas trips to Ireland	7.3	7.2	7.1	6.5	7.0	7.9	6.4	6.5	6.7	7.7
Trips by area of residence										
Great Britain	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.2	5.1	3.6	3.8	4.0	5.0
France	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.1	8.5	9.8	7.6	8.3	9.9	10.6
Germany	9.6	9.5	9.5	10.1	10.4	9.1	8.5	7.9	8.3	9.5
Italy	9.0	9.5	8.6	6.6	6.9	10.7	8.5	5.3	7.5	9.9
Other Europe	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.4	8.2	10.1	7.5	9.6	8.2	9.7
USA & Canada	8.2	7.4	7.7	7.0	7.7	7.8	8.0	6.9	6.7	7.4
Australia & New Zealand	11.8	12.5	12.3	14.0	10.7	12.9	12.2	14.2	12.5	11.9
All other areas	14.1	14.8	15.1	14.8	14.3	15.2	15.9	18.0	15.3	15.2
Trips by reason for journey										
Business	5.4	5.6	5.3	4.8	5.5	6.0	5.1	5.3	5.2	6.5
Visit to Friends/Relatives	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.2	6.8	8.7	6.5	7.4	6.6	8.2
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	6.6	6.6	6.5	5.0	6.3	7.8	5.3	4.8	6.3	7.7
Other	14.0	12.1	11.9	14.9	13.4	9.2	12.5	13.2	10.6	8.0

Table 6a Estimated average length of stay (nights) by non-residents on all overseas trips to Ireland cross classified by area of residence and reason for journey, Quarter 3 2015 and Quarter 3 2016

										Nights
Average length of stay	Reason for journey									
	Business		Visit to Friends/Relatives		Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation		Other		Total	
	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016
Area of Residence										
Great Britain	2.7	2.7	6.2	6.1	5.7	5.5	2.2	1.7	5.1	5.0
France	10.0	14.3	8.8	9.8	8.8	9.2	14.8	16.1	9.8	10.6
Germany	7.0	5.0	7.9	7.5	9.1	9.9	13.2	11.3	9.1	9.5
Italy	17.3	10.9	10.3	7.3	7.9	7.8	15.7	15.4	10.7	9.9
Other Europe	10.3	12.1	11.4	10.3	8.2	8.1	16.4	12.5	10.1	9.7
USA & Canada	7.1	7.1	10.8	10.8	8.2	7.9	3.0	3.0	7.8	7.4
All other areas (incl. Australia & New Zealand)	12.1	11.9	20.1	17.6	9.8	9.9	21.0	24.1	14.3	14.0
Total	6.0	6.5	8.7	8.2	7.8	7.7	9.2	8.0	7.9	7.7

Table 6b Estimated average length of stay (nights) by non-residents on all overseas trips to Ireland cross classified by area of residence and reason for journey, Years 2014 and 2015

										Nights
Average length of stay	Reason for journey									
	Business		Visit to Friends/Relatives		Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation		Other		Total	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Area of Residence										
Great Britain	2.9	2.7	5.6	5.4	4.6	4.5	3.4	2.2	4.5	4.3
France	7.6	7.3	7.7	6.6	7.2	6.9	19.3	19.9	8.8	8.6
Germany	8.7	7.2	7.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	24.4	29.1	9.5	9.5
Italy	8.1	8.8	7.3	7.9	7.0	5.8	19.5	18.0	9.5	8.6
Other Europe	9.5	8.3	8.9	8.6	6.6	6.6	17.0	17.5	9.0	8.7
USA & Canada	6.5	6.7	9.6	9.7	7.4	7.6	5.8	7.0	7.4	7.7
All other areas (incl. Australia & New Zealand)	9.4	11.5	16.7	16.5	9.2	9.0	29.3	28.2	13.9	14.0
Total	5.6	5.3	7.4	7.3	6.6	6.5	12.1	11.9	7.2	7.1

Table 7 Expenditure by non-residents on overseas trips to Ireland classified by type of trip, area of residence, reason for journey and total overseas tourism and travel earnings, 2013 - Quarter 3 2016

	€ million									
Estimated expenditure	2013	2014	2015	2015				2016		
				Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Total expenditure in Ireland (excluding fares) (1)	3,262	3,548	4,208	590	1,194	1,551	873	693	1,261	1,693
Fare receipts of Irish carriers from overseas travellers to Ireland (2)	976 ¹	1,166 ¹	1,322	190	372	486	275	233	394	548
Total overseas tourism and travel earnings (1) + (2)	4,238 ¹	4,714 ¹	5,530	780	1,566	2,037	1,148	926	1,655	2,241
Total expenditure in Ireland (excluding fares) by trip type										
Same-day trips	35	41	38	9	9	10	10	9	14	12
Overnight trips	3,227	3,507	4,169	582	1,185	1,541	862	684	1,247	1,680
Total expenditure in Ireland (excluding fares) by area of residence										
Great Britain	847	885	971	181	246	309	236	214	269	337
France	200	202	236	33	78	84	41	42	92	103
Germany	286	334	397	41	146	144	66	44	122	159
Italy	119	132	153	24	32	70	26	22	44	88
Other Europe	629	639	771	117	192	301	161	137	208	324
USA & Canada	822	935	1,197	125	375	470	226	144	394	494
Australia & New Zealand	168	177	200	27	52	79	42	31	52	76
All other areas	191	244	283	43	72	92	75	60	79	112
Total expenditure in Ireland (excluding fares) by reason for journey										
Business	580	587	675	151	172	163	189	148	198	186
Visit to Friends/Relatives	670	784	803	151	198	256	197	191	199	270
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	1,687	1,823	2,330	219	717	1,002	392	282	738	1,073
Other	324	353	400	69	106	129	96	72	127	163

¹ The total tourism and travel earnings for 2013 and 2014 were revised due to a change in the methodology used to calculate fare receipts of Irish Carriers.

Table 7a Total expenditure (excl fares) by non-residents on overseas trips to Ireland cross classified by area of residence and reason for journey, Quarter 3 2015 and Quarter 3 2016

€ million										
Estimated expenditure	Reason for journey								Total	
	Business		Visit to Friends/Relatives		Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation		Other			
	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016
Area of Residence										
Great Britain	59	57	101	111	141	160	7	8	309	337
France	8	9	5	7	64	78	8	8	84	103
Germany	7	9	6	6	125	135	6	9	144	159
Italy	4	4	5	8	38	45	24	30	70	88
Other Europe	40	44	32	34	175	186	54	60	301	324
USA & Canada	24	33	50	54	384	388	12	19	470	494
All other areas (incl. Australia & New Zealand)	21	28	57	51	75	79	18	29	171	188
Total	163	186	256	270	1,002	1,073	129	163	1,551	1,693

Table 7b Total expenditure (excl fares) by non-residents on overseas trips to Ireland cross classified by area of residence and reason for journey, Years 2014 and 2015

€ million										
Estimated expenditure	Reason for journey								Total	
	Business		Visit to Friends/Relatives		Holiday/Leisure/ Recreation		Other			
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Area of Residence										
Great Britain	207	226	316	316	338	403	25	25	885	971
France	28	26	25	24	118	149	30	37	202	236
Germany	36	38	32	27	232	295	33	38	334	397
Italy	19	20	11	16	51	77	51	40	132	153
Other Europe	145	170	132	124	259	353	103	125	639	771
USA & Canada	92	112	123	136	665	869	55	79	935	1,197
All other areas (incl. Australia & New Zealand)	61	81	145	160	161	185	55	56	421	482
Total	587	675	784	803	1,823	2,330	353	400	3,548	4,208

Table 8 Number of overseas trips by Irish residents classified by mode of travel, type of trip, route of travel and reason for journey, 2013 - Quarter 3 2016

	'000									
Trips	2013	2014	2015	2015				2016		
				Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Total overseas trips by Irish residents	6,323	6,514	6,965	1,306	1,928	2,186	1,545	1,478	1,975	2,253
Trips by mode of travel										
Air	5,874	6,059	6,561	1,245	1,824	2,010	1,482	1,425	1,878	2,085
Sea	449	456	404	61	104	176	63	52	97	168
Trips by type										
Same-day trips	138	189	184	32	53	48	50	42	45	31
Overnight trips	6,185	6,326	6,781	1,274	1,875	2,138	1,495	1,436	1,931	2,222
Trips by route of travel										
Cross channel	2,560	2,596	2,617	574	661	736	646	617	665	716
Continental	3,437	3,515	3,772	620	1,126	1,268	758	744	1,167	1,362
Transatlantic & Other Routes	327	404	577	112	141	183	140	116	143	175
Trips by reason for journey										
Business	862	790	890	172	284	202	232	188	236	157
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,458	1,565	1,684	436	400	419	429	468	394	430
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,931	4,004	4,209	671	1,194	1,515	828	798	1,274	1,589
Other	72	156	182	27	49	50	56	23	71	77

Table 9 Estimated average length of stay (nights) by Irish residents on all overseas trips classified by route of travel and reason for journey, 2013 - Quarter 3 2016

	Nights									
Average length of stay	2013	2014	2015	2015				2016		
				Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
All overseas trips by Irish residents	8.1	8.1	7.6	7.1	6.8	9.5	6.1	7.2	7.1	9.4
Trips by route of travel										
Cross channel	6.1	5.9	5.0	4.9	4.4	6.5	4.0	4.9	4.6	6.4
Continental	9.4	9.4	8.4	7.8	7.5	10.3	7.1	7.9	8.0	10.5
Transatlantic & Other Routes	9.9	11.0	13.6	14.6	12.2	16.2	11.0	14.8	11.1	12.8
Trips by reason for journey										
Business	4.2	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.0	5.5	3.1	3.2	3.3	5.0
Visit to Friends/Relatives	6.8	7.2	6.8	8.1	6.0	7.7	5.5	7.2	4.9	6.1
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	9.3	9.1	8.6	7.1	7.8	10.7	7.3	8.1	8.2	10.8
Other	13.7	11.1	8.4	12.3	10.6	6.6	6.3	7.1	10.9	8.8

Table 10 Estimated expenditure by Irish residents on overseas trips classified by reason for journey and total overseas tourism and travel expenditure, 2013 - Quarter 3 2016

	€ million									
Estimated expenditure	2013	2014	2015	2015				2016		
				Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Total expenditure (including fares) (1)	5,265	5,442	5,843	980	1,475	2,096	1,292	1,181	1,553	2,231
Fare payments by Irish travellers abroad to Irish carriers (2)	969 ¹	1,074 ¹	1,148	186	305	416	242	210	310	460
Total overseas tourism and travel expenditure (1) - (2)	4,296 ¹	4,368 ¹	4,695	794	1,170	1,680	1,050	971	1,243	1,771
Total expenditure (including fares) by reason for journey										
Business	601	602	650	122	200	175	153	125	184	128
Visit to Friends/Relatives	784	907	968	266	214	253	236	250	190	244
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation	3,817	3,818	4,089	571	1,027	1,630	860	794	1,128	1,787
Other	63	114	136	21	34	38	43	13	51	71

¹ The total tourism and travel expenditure for 2013 and 2014 were revised due to a change in the methodology used to calculate fare payments to Irish Carriers.

Table 11 Tourism and travel estimated earnings from non-residents on overseas trips to Ireland and expenditure by Irish residents on overseas trips, 2013 - Quarter 3 2016

	€ million									
Estimated earnings and expenditure	2013 ¹	2014 ¹	2015	2015				2016		
				Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Overseas tourism and travel earnings from trips to Ireland	4,238	4,714	5,530	780	1,566	2,037	1,148	926	1,655	2,241
Overseas tourism and travel expenditure by Irish travellers abroad	4,296	4,368	4,695	794	1,170	1,680	1,050	971	1,243	1,771
Tourism and travel balance	-58	346	835	-14	396	357	98	-45	412	470

¹ The total tourism and travel earnings and expenditure for 2013 and 2014 were revised due to a change in the methodology used to calculate fare payments to Irish Carriers.

Background Notes

Introduction

The data in this release gives details on the number of overseas trips to Ireland and Irish trips abroad. It provides data on country of residence, reason for journey, the average length of stay (nights) and expenditure of overseas travellers to Ireland and by Irish residents on trips abroad.

Ireland

For the purposes of this release, Ireland refers to the Republic of Ireland.

Data Sources

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) carries out two sample surveys of passengers at airports and seaports. These are the *Country of Residence Survey* (CRS) and the *Passenger Card Inquiry* (PCI). Data from these surveys are used in conjunction with passenger movement figures supplied by the air and sea 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) which provides an estimated country of residence breakdown for passengers entering and leaving Ireland. This distribution is applied to the total passenger movement figures to provide estimates of Irish trips abroad and trips to Ireland by non-residents. Trips to Ireland are categorised into the areas of residence shown in this release.

The Passenger Card Inquiry is a continuous sample survey of incoming and departing passengers. This survey provides information on the reason for journey, length of stay, expenditure and fare costs, in addition to residency. The results are combined with the overall residency estimates from the Country of Residence Survey to provide the overseas tourism and travel details shown in this release.

Periodicity

Quarterly.

Scope

The length of stay, residency, reason for journey, accommodation type (inbound travellers only) expenditure and fare costs for overseas travel into and out of Ireland.

Coverage

This release provides information on overseas travel into and out of Ireland. The results for overseas travel to Ireland are based on the travel and expenditure patterns of departing non-resident passengers while results for overseas travel by Irish residents are based on departing and incoming Irish passengers.

Travel by residents of Northern Ireland into or out of Ireland or travel within Ireland by Irish residents is excluded from this publication.

Data Collection

This release is based on the results of the Passenger Card Inquiry. The PCI surveys passengers at Dublin, Cork, Shannon and Knock airports and at Rosslare, Ringaskiddy and Dublin seaports. Data on the country of residence, length of stay, reason for journey, expenditure and fare costs is collected from passengers who complete a questionnaire provided by one of a team of Central Statistics Office (CSO) interviewers. This data is also collected by the Office of National Statistics staff on behalf of the CSO at Holyhead seaport covering passengers coming into the Republic of Ireland from Holyhead.

Sample Design

A sample of flights and sailings is selected to facilitate proper representation of airport/seaport pairings (e.g. Dublin-London Heathrow), day, night, weekday and weekend flights/sailings. The PCI card is then distributed by CSO interviewers to all passengers on these flights and sailings.

Where expenditure or fare data is missing, results are imputed using the 'nearest neighbour' imputation methodology. In other words, these expenditures and fares are estimated using the average fares of other observations in the sample with similar characteristics.

Sample Size

The effective sample size for the PCI in Quarter 3 2016 was 56,000 passengers.

Definitions

Trip

In this release, a trip is defined as a journey (usually including a return) from one place to another, for any purpose (i.e. both tourism and non-tourism). The number of trips is calculated as the sum of both outward journeys and inward journeys divided by two.

Same Day Traveller

A traveller is classified as a same day traveller if his/her trip does not include an overnight stay.

Transit/Transfer Passengers

Transit passengers are defined as those who make a stop at an airport without any particular purpose other than being en route to another destination. These passengers generally do not disembark from their aircraft and are therefore not covered by the Passenger Card Inquiry.

Transfer passengers or 'connecting passengers' are also defined as those who make a stop at an airport without any particular purpose other than being en route to another destination. However, unlike transits, transfer passengers disembark the aircraft and pass through the airport en route to their connecting flight. Such passengers are included in the estimates of trips and expenditure for the Tourism and Travel release and are treated in the same manner as same-day visits. They are surveyed for the Passenger Card Inquiry.

Country of Residence

Country of Residence is defined as the country in which the person has resided for 12 months prior to interview.

Total Expenditure

Total expenditure refers to the amount paid for the acquisition or consumption of goods and services for one's own use or for use by others, for and during trips. It includes expenditure by travellers themselves, as well as expenses that are paid for or reimbursed by others. For example, expenses paid by another person (e.g. gift) or expenses paid directly by the employer for employees on business travel are included.

Total expenditure does not include purchases of land, real estate or motor vehicles.

Overseas Tourism & Travel Earnings

Overseas tourism and travel earnings refers to the total expenditure by overseas travellers while in Ireland plus fares paid by them to Irish air and sea carriers.

Overseas Tourism & Travel Expenditure

Overseas tourism and travel expenditure refers to the total expenditure of Irish residents on overseas trips (including all fares) less fares paid by them to Irish air and sea carriers.

Tourism & Travel Balance

This refers to the difference between tourism and travel earnings from overseas trips to Ireland and tourism and travel expenditure on trips abroad by Irish residents.

Rounding

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