

Conference or Convention arrivals to Australia June 2009 update

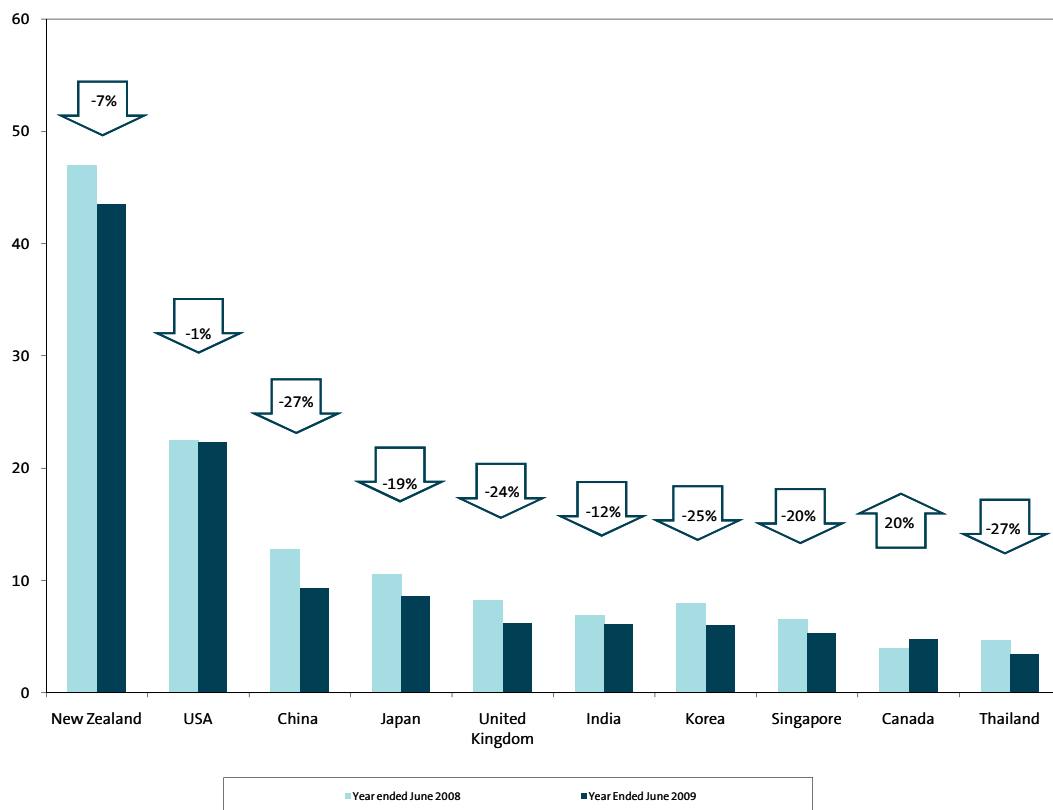
The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes short-term international arrivals to Australia on a monthly basis. The data is collected from passenger cards that international visitors complete when they enter Australia. These cards request information including purpose of visit, demographics and trip details. The following analysis focuses on international arrivals whose main purpose of visit was to attend a conference and convention in Australia.

Highlights

- > There were 166,800 convention or conference arrivals during the year ended 30 June 2009, a decrease of 9 per cent year-on-year. Similarly, overall business arrivals decreased 10 per cent year-on-year to 766,200, while total arrivals to Australia decreased 2 per cent to 5.5 million. Refer to Table 1.
- > There were 30,800 convention or conference arrivals during the three months ended 30 June 2009, a decrease of 26 per cent year-on-year. Similarly, overall business arrivals decreased 21 per cent, while total arrivals to Australia increased 1 per cent. Refer to Table 1.
- > There were 10,200 convention or conference arrivals during June 2009, a decrease of 20 per cent year-on-year. Similarly, overall business arrivals decreased 14 per cent year-on-year, while total arrivals to Australia decreased 5 per cent.

**Chart 1: Number of convention or conference visitors to Australia by country of residence.
Year ended 30 June 2009 compared to year ended June 2008**

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Overseas Arrivals and Departures



NB. The arrows in the above chart represent percentage change in convention/conference arrivals in year ending 30 June 2009 compared to 2008.

BUSINESS EVENTS ARRIVALS

June 2009



Table 1: Number of visitor arrivals to Australia by purpose of visit and country of residence.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Overseas Arrivals and Departures

Rank	Country of residence	Convention or conference arrivals				Total business arrivals*				Total arrivals			
		Year ended 30 June 2009		3 mths ended June 2009		Year ended 30 June 2009		3 mths ended June 2009		Year ended 30 June 2009		3 mths ended June 2009	
			% ch		% ch		% ch		% ch		% ch		% ch
1	New Zealand	43,482	-7%		-10%	199,336	-6%		-13%	1,105,508	-1%		-2%
2	USA	22,347	-1%		-23%	96,583	-12%		-17%	451,544	-1%		6%
3	China	9,322	-27%		-28%	46,006	-35%		-54%	358,089	-5%		-16%
4	Japan	8,576	-19%		-47%	36,172	-13%		-23%	403,680	-23%		-26%
5	United Kingdom	6,213	-24%		-11%	47,433	-10%		-23%	658,704	-4%		6%
6	India	6,071	-12%		-27%	26,399	-3%		-9%	120,486	12%		4%
7	Korea	5,967	-25%		-26%	13,242	-22%		-29%	193,169	-18%		-21%
8	Singapore	5,291	-20%		-34%	57,977	-4%		-13%	278,398	4%		12%
9	Canada	4,722	20%		-9%	15,908	-4%		-22%	121,434	0%		-5%
10	Thailand	3,408	-27%		-33%	12,974	-18%		-21%	77,366	-8%		-8%
11	Papua New Guinea	3,300	69%		-12%	11,090	39%		-2%	41,353	22%		9%
12	Malaysia	3,181	-20%		-41%	17,906	-10%		-27%	195,075	17%		41%
13	Indonesia	3,157	-7%		-9%	12,249	-15%		-23%	95,810	3%		17%
14	Philippines	3,090	13%		-6%	8,751	2%		-10%	48,251	13%		10%
15	Germany	2,625	-9%		-50%	16,226	-8%		-24%	158,724	2%		0%
	Other	36,085	-6%		-41%	147,951	-5%		-23%	1,234,224	6%		8%
	Total	166,837	-9%		-26%	766,203	-10%		-21%	5,541,815	-2%		1%

*A business visitor is defined in the above table as an international visitor who came to Australia for business including convention/conference as their main purpose of journey.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Overseas Arrivals and Departures, 3401.0. ABS data used with permission from the Australian Bureau of Statistics www.abs.gov.au

Table 1 reports on the three months to 30 June 2009 to reduce sample errors. Sometimes there is no change between the comparison periods (i.e.0%) but the arrows will be directional to reflect the decimal places associated with the figure. E.g. Increase of 0.04%

This analysis was produced by Tourism Australia for Business Events Australia. For further information, including statistics on a financial or calendar year to date basis, please contact Leah Fletcher lfletcher@tourism.australia.com

NB. Tourism Research Australia (TRA) also collects information on international arrivals to Australia on a quarterly basis through the International Visitor Survey (IVS). It is possible to analyse convention or conference arrivals in terms of expenditure, nights, states or territories visited, accommodation and transport used, country of residence, repeat visitation etc. However, data should only be used for indicative purposes only due to small sample sizes at this level of analysis. For general information on the IVS, visit <http://www.tra.australia.com/> or for more tailored analysis contact research@tourism.australia.com.