



Australian Government
Tourism Research Australia



TOURISM
RESEARCH
AUSTRALIA

TOURISM
BUSINESSES
IN AUSTRALIA

June 2010 to June 2012

APPENDIX A - DATA
SOURCES, DATA TREATMENT
AND DEFINITIONS

TOURISM
BUSINESSES
IN AUSTRALIA

APPENDIX A

DATA SOURCE, DATA TREATMENT IN COMPILATION OF ESTIMATES, DEFINITION OF TOURISM BUSINESSES AND DEFINITION OF TOURISM INDUSTRIES

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS' BUSINESS REGISTER

The Australian Bureau of Statistics' Business Register (ABSBR) has been maintained by the ABS since the late 1960s. Between 1986 and 2002, the ABSBR was primarily sourced from the Group Employer (GE) registrations with the Australian Taxation Office. These registrations excluded non-employing businesses.

From 2002, the ABSBR changed its base from GE registrations to active Australian Business Number (ABN) registrations sourced from the Australian Business Register (ABR). The ABN unit equates to a single business making it simple to use for business counts. The population of ABN units is called the ATO maintained population (ATOMP).

Although most businesses on the ABSBR are from the ATOMP, in some instances, where businesses are more complex and diverse, the ABS collects information directly from the businesses. A business in this case equates to a Type of Activity Unit¹ (TAU) and is part of the ABS maintained population (ABSMP).

Business counts reported by Tourism Research Australia (TRA) are sourced from the current ABSBR and only include actively trading employing and non-employing businesses. This is consistent with current ABS business counts (ABS, 2013).

CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS RELEASE

ABS released its latest publication, "Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits June 2010 to June 2012", on May 21, 2013. There have been changes to this publication compared to the previous release, which makes estimates in this publication non-comparable with the previous one. Changes in this publication relate to;

1. Changes relating to all industries
 - On 1 July 2007, there has been revisions to the GST threshold of \$50,000 previously to \$75,000 per annum for businesses and \$100,000 previous threshold to \$150,000 per annum for not for profit institutions.
 - In June 2010, the ABS implemented a new methodology for identifying annual long term non-remitters (LTNRs). These are businesses that have not submitted a Business Activity Statement (BAS) for a defined period of time, and are considered

¹ A Type of Activity Unit is comprised of one or more businesses entities, sub entities or branches of a business entity within an enterprise group that can report production and employment data for similar economic activities when a minimum set of data items are available.

dormant businesses and therefore excluded from the counts. For annual remitters, this LTNR period has been increased from 5 consecutive quarters to 3 consecutive years. This administrative change has resulted in a noticeable and identifiable increase in the business counts at June 2010.

- Inclusion of actively trading businesses that have yet not been classified to an industry, sector and/or main state of operation through the ABR new business registration process. Previously, such businesses were excluded from the count.
- Provision of industry data using the 2006 version of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC)².

2. Changes relating to tourism industries

- Changes caused by revision in the international standards. The tourism industry classifications used in this publication are based on industry classifications in the latest fully benchmarked Australian Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) published by the ABS on 4 June 2010. Significant changes have been incorporated in the TSA publication due to the implementation of the *Tourism Satellite Account: Recommended Methodological Framework* (TSA: RMF 2008), ANZSIC 2006, *International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics 2008* (IRTS 008) and the *System of National Accounts 2008* (SNA 2008). Full details of the key changes have been described in the information papers: *Introduction of revised international statistical standards in the Australian Tourism Satellite Account* (ABS Cat. No. 5249.0.55.002) and *Implementation of revised international statistical standards in the Australian Tourism Satellite Account* (ABS Cat. No. 5249.0.55.003).

EXCLUSIONS

Businesses excluded from the business counts include:

- Units not actively trading including central bank, general government, non-profit institutions serving households and other unincorporated entities (which include sporting and social groups, trade unions, lobby groups and associations), ANZSIC 2006 subdivision of police services, fire protection and other emergency services, religious services, business and professional associations, labour association services, other interest group services n.e.c., private household employing staff, undifferentiated goods-producing activities of private household for own use and undifferentiated service-producing activities of private household for own use.
- Those not registered for an ABN either because they do not have any obligations under the goods and services taxation (GST) legislation or are under the threshold for registration.

² ANZSIC was developed by the Australian and New Zealand statistics departments with its purpose to group businesses that carry out similar economic activities.

- Those who have not submitted a business activity statement (BAS) for more than 3 quarters or those who have submitted a statement reporting zero dollars.

CONFIDENTIALISATION

When publishing data that are highly disaggregated, it is necessary to suppress the data cells that contain very small counts to prevent the potential identification of individual businesses. Therefore, a random rounding process is applied at a much finer level of detail. Specifically, each cell is rounded at this very detailed level and it is then aggregated to form specific views of the data (e.g. industry/geographic/business size combinations). This process is known as confidentialisation and can lead to data that differ from the actual estimates once aggregated. In some cases where there are many rounded cells (i.e. at this very detailed level) contributing to a relatively large total, the impact of the rounding process can compound (as the number of rounded cells making up the total tends to be high). Although the tourism businesses data published by TRA are subject to a high level of confidentialisation and should be used with caution, the data are suitable for providing an overall indication of the scale of tourism related business activity in Australia.

In this publication, this is particularly relevant to the tables presenting state/territory and tourism region counts. Effectively, this means that the sum of published individual cells in a table for a particular category will be less or higher than the published total, which does include the contribution of the confidentialised counts.

SPATIAL LOCATION OF BUSINESSES

The regional counts of businesses are primarily classified on the basis of their main business or head office address. Consequently, the counts of businesses in the ABSBR are classified by geographical location of a business according to the Australian Standard Geographical System (ASGS)³ (ABS Cat. No. 1216.0.55.004, Feb 2012); the lowest spatial unit used in this publication is a Tourism Region (TR). To obtain estimates at this level, the Statistical Area 2 (SA2) from ABS data was concorded to the Tourism Regions using “TRA’s 2013 SA2-Tourism Region concordance”.

³ Users should note that since July 2011, the ABS has progressively replaced the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) with the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) as its geographical framework. As such, from Dec 2011, the ABS’ release of *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits* is based on the new ASGS. With the move to the new geography framework, state-based data will remain unchanged, however, sub-state data will be affected, as it will now be produced using the new ASGS. In terms of business counts data, the base unit of the ASGS is the Statistical Area 2 (SA2). This SA2 data has replaced the previously published SLA business counts data.

DEFINING TOURISM BUSINESSES

Tourism businesses are often referred to as tourism related businesses and are classified using the hierarchical ANZSIC and the TSA. Businesses are assigned to industry categories based on the predominant activity of the business. The tourism industry, however, is defined according to the consumer rather than the activity of the business, so TSA were created to examine the economic contribution of tourism by defining the goods and services tourists consume. Thus, a tourism business is any business that relies significantly on tourists including both direct and indirect consumption of the main product or service of the business.

Tourism businesses are split into 2 groups – tourism characteristic (Table 1) and tourism connected (Table 2) businesses. The two groups are defined as follows:

Tourism characteristic businesses: Businesses in those industries that would either cease to exist in their present form, or would be significantly affected if tourism were to cease. In the Australian TSA, for an industry to be “characteristic”, at least 25 per cent of its output must be consumed by visitors.’ (ABS Cat. No. 5249.0, 2010-11) Table 1 lists the tourism characteristic businesses and the ANZSIC division to which the business belongs.

TABLE 1 TOURISM CHARACTERISTIC BUSINESSES BY ANZSIC DIVISION

ANZSIC code	Tourism characteristic industry	Tourism ANZSIC industry	ANZSIC 06 industry
44	Accommodation	Accommodation	Accommodation and food services
451	Cafés, restaurants and takeaway food services	Cafés, restaurants and takeaway food services	Accommodation and food services
452	Clubs, pubs, taverns and bars	Pubs, taverns and bars	Accommodation and food services
453	Clubs, pubs, taverns and bars	Clubs (hospitality)	Accommodation and food services
4623	Taxi transport	Taxi and other road transport	Transport, postal and warehousing
47	Rail transport	Rail transport	Transport, postal and warehousing
48	Air, water and other transport	Water transport	Transport, postal and warehousing
49	Air, water and other transport	Air and space transport	Transport, postal and warehousing
50	Air, water and other transport	Other transport	Transport, postal and warehousing
6611	Motor vehicle hiring	Passenger car rental and hiring	Rental, hiring and real estate services
722	Travel agency and tour operator services	Travel agency and tour arrangement services	Administrative and support services
89	Cultural services	Heritage activities	Arts and recreation services
90	Cultural services	Creative and performing arts activities	Arts and recreation services
91	Other sports and recreation services	Sports and recreation activities	Arts and recreation services
92	Casinos and other gambling services	Gambling activities	Arts and recreation services

Source: ABS Cat. No. 5249.0

Tourism connected businesses: Businesses in industries, other than those classified as tourism characteristic, for which a tourism related product is directly identifiable, and where the products are consumed by visitors in volumes which are significant for the visitor and/or the producer. (ABS 2011)

Table 2 lists the tourism connected businesses and the ANZSIC division to which the business belongs.

TABLE 2 TOURISM CONNECTED INDUSTRIES BY ANZSIC DIVISION

Tourism related ANZSIC industry group	Tourism connected industry	Tourism industries ANZSIC	ANZSIC 06 industries
39	Other retail trade	Motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts retailing	Retail trade
40	Automotive fuel retailing	Fuel retailing	Retail trade
41	Other retail trade	Food retailing	Retail trade
42	Other retail trade	Other store-based retailing	Retail trade
43	Other retail trade	Non-store retailing and retail commission based buying and/or selling	Retail trade

Source: ABS Cat. No. 5249.0

TOURISM CHARACTERISTIC AND TOURISM CONNECTED INDUSTRIES

The following section presents the detailed explanation of individual tourism related industry given above in Table 1 and Table 2. This information is sourced from ABS' publication, *Australia and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC)*, 2006. (ABS Cat. No. 1292.0).

TOURISM CHARACTERISTIC INDUSTRIES

Accommodation

Accommodation (44)

This subdivision consists of hotels, motels and similar units mainly engaged in providing short-term accommodation. Hotels, motels, caravan parks, camping grounds, holiday houses and flats are included in this category.

Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services

Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services (451)

This group of units mainly engaged in providing food and beverage serving services for consumption on the premises. Customers generally order and are served while seated (i.e. waiter/waitress service) and pay after eating. This also consists of units mainly engaged in providing food services ready to be taken away for immediate consumption. Customers order or select items and pay before eating. Items are usually provided in takeaway

containers or packaging. Food is consumed on the premises in limited seating facilities, taken away by the customer or delivered. This group also includes units mainly engaged in supplying food services in food halls and food courts, catering services at specified locations or events such as airline catering. Meals and snacks may be transported and/or prepared and served on or off the premises, as required by the customer.

Clubs, pubs, taverns and bars

Pubs, taverns and bars (452)

This group consists of hotels, bars or similar units (except hospitality clubs) mainly engaged in serving alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises, or in selling alcoholic beverages both for consumption on and off the premises. These units may also provide food services and/or present live entertainment.

Clubs (hospitality) (453)

This group consists of associations mainly engaged in providing hospitality services to members. These hospitality services include gambling, sporting or other social or entertainment facilities.

Taxi transport

Taxi and other road transport (4623)

This class consists of units mainly engaged in operating taxi cabs or hire cars with drivers, or other forms of road vehicles not elsewhere classified, for the transportation of passengers.

Rail transport (46)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in operating railways for the transportation of freight by rail and in operating railways (except tramways) for the transportation of passengers over short and long distances.

Air, water and other transport

Water transport (48)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in the operation of vessels for the transportation of freight or cargo by water and for the transportation of passengers by water.

Air and space transport (49)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in operating aircraft for the transportation of freight and passengers.

Other transport (50)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in operating transportation equipment for scenic and sightseeing activities. This form of transport is distinguished from transit passenger services, as the emphasis is not on the efficiency or speed of the transport service but rather on providing recreation and entertainment. The service provided is usually local in nature and generally includes tour commentary, highlighting features of the scenery and/or the vehicle and units mainly engaged in the transportation of natural gas, oil or other materials via pipelines. This subdivision also consists of units mainly engaged in passenger and freight transportation not elsewhere classified.

Motor vehicle hiring

Passenger car rental and hiring (6611)

This class consists of units mainly engaged in hiring, leasing or renting passenger cars without drivers. Passenger cars include station wagons and minibuses.

Travel agency and tour operator services

Travel agency and tour arrangement services (722)

This group consists of units mainly engaged in acting as agents in selling travel, tour and accommodation services as well as units providing travel arrangement and reservation services for airlines, cars, hotels and restaurants. Also included are units mainly engaged in arranging, assembling, wholesaling and retailing tours.

Cultural services

Heritage activities (89)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in the preservation and exhibition of heritage objects and artefacts and/or visual arts and crafts with aesthetic, historical, cultural, and/or educational value. This also includes units operating historical places, sites or houses and units mainly engaged in the active management, breeding, preservation, study and exhibition of live plants and animals in a controlled environment such as zoological or botanical gardens and preservation of flora and fauna in their natural environment such as nature reserves and conservation parks.

Creative and performing arts activities (90)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in providing or producing live theatrical or musical presentations or performances, creation of original artistic or cultural works. This also consists of units of independent (freelance) individuals or groups mainly engaged in the regular creation of original artistic or cultural works that may or may not also produce and perform their works. This subdivision also includes units providing independent technical

expertise necessary for these productions, and celebrities mainly engaged in endorsing products or making speeches or public appearances for which they receive a fee and units mainly engaged in operating venues for the presentation and rehearsal of performing arts.

Casinos and other gambling services

Gambling activities (92)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in operating facilities with a range of gambling services such as table wagering games and poker/gaming machines. This subdivision also consists of units mainly engaged in operating lotteries or selling lottery products. Also included are units operating lotto-style games and football pools. This consists of units mainly engaged in operating other gambling services such as totalisator or betting services. Also included in this subdivision are units offering gambling services through the internet.

Other sports and recreation services

Sports and recreation activities (91)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in operating health clubs, fitness centres and gymnasia. Units in this class provide a range of fitness and exercise services. This subdivision also consists of units mainly engaged in operating individual sports or physical recreation clubs or teams which provide sporting or physical recreation opportunities to participants, or entertainment for spectator and sports professionals. This also consists of units mainly engaged in operating indoor or outdoor sports and physical recreation venues, grounds and facilities (except health and fitness centres and gymnasia). The units mainly engaged in the administration and/or control of sports or physical recreation organisations are also included in this subdivision. These units are responsible for the policies, rules and regulations governing the conduct of an individual sporting or physical recreation discipline. This subdivision also consists of units mainly engaged in administering and operating venues for horse and dog racing activities, horse racing stables or dog racing kennels and horse and dog racing training services. This subdivision also consists of units mainly engaged in providing amusement and recreation services in the form of amusement parks, arcades or centres. This also includes units operating from fixed or permanent sites and also includes selected mobile amusement operators and units mainly engaged in providing amusement and other recreational services not elsewhere classified. Included in this class are units that provide outdoor recreational services such as bungee jumping and white water rafting.

TOURISM CONNECTED INDUSTRIES

Automotive fuel retailing

Fuel retailing (40)

This class consists of units mainly engaged in retailing fuels, including petrol, LPG or lubricating oils.

Motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts retailing (39)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in retailing fuels, including petrol, LPG or lubricating oils, retailing new or used motor cycles or scooters and caravans, trailers and other motor vehicles, including mobile homes or cabins. This subdivision also consists of units mainly engaged in retailing new or used parts or accessories for motor vehicles and units mainly engaged in retailing motor vehicle or motor cycle tyres (new or reconditioned) or tubes.

Other retail trade

Food retailing (41)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in retailing groceries or non- specialised food lines (including convenience stores), whether or not the selling is organised on a self-service basis. This also consists of units mainly engaged in retailing fresh meat, fish or poultry, fresh fruit or vegetables, beer, wine or spirits for consumption off the premises only plus in retailing specialised food lines, such as confectionery or smallgoods or bread and cakes (not manufactured on the same premises).

Other store-based retailing (42)

This subdivision consists of units engaged in retailing furniture, blinds or awnings, retailing floor coverings (except ceramic floor tiles) and retailing kitchenware, china, glassware, silverware or other house ware goods plus retailing fabrics, curtains or household textiles. This subdivision also consists of units mainly engaged in retailing electrical, electronic or gas appliances (except computers and computer peripherals) and in retailing computers or computer peripheral equipment plus in retailing electrical and electronic goods not elsewhere classified. This subdivision also consists of units mainly engaged in retailing hardware or building supplies, retailing garden supplies or nursery goods, sporting goods, camping equipment or bicycles, audio tapes, compact discs, computer games, digital versatile discs or video cassettes, toys or games (except computer games), books, periodicals and newspapers, new or used boats or boat accessories, clothing or clothing accessories, boots, shoes or other footwear, new watches and jewellery (except clocks and silverware), other personal accessories, including new handbags, sunglasses, leather goods, luggage and other personal accessories not elsewhere classified, goods, other than food or groceries, but the variety is such that no predominant activity can be determined, prescription drugs or patent medicines, cosmetics or toiletries, antiques or second-hand goods (except motor vehicles or motor cycles and parts), cut flowers or display foliage and goods not elsewhere classified from store-based premises.

Non-store retailing and retail commission based buying and/or selling (43)

This subdivision consists of units mainly engaged in retailing goods without the use of a shopfront or physical store presence, including milk vendors, sole e-commerce retailers and direct shopping units, goods to the general public on a fee or commission basis. These activities include units who arrange the sale of goods on behalf of a principal, but do not take title to the goods themselves.

References

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