



TRAVEL BY AUSTRALIANS¹

YEAR ENDING JUNE 2017

OVERNIGHT SPEND ▲7%
\$62.6 BILLION

OVERNIGHT TRIPS ▲5%
93.7 MILLION

NIGHTS ▲4%
338 MILLION

Strong growth in domestic overnight travel continued during the year ending June 2017.

- Led by spending on holiday travel and trips to visit friends and relatives (VFR), domestic overnight spend increased 7% to a record \$62.6 billion.
- Domestic overnight trips were up 5% to a record 93.7 million, with nights increasing 4% to 338 million.

Domestic day trip spend grew 3% to \$19.7 billion, despite the number of day trips remaining at 188 million, the same as last year.

These results, combined with strong growth in international travel for the year ending June 2017, place total tourism spend at a record \$122.9 billion (Figure 1). This is an overall increase of 6% or \$6.9 billion on the previous year.

New South Wales and Victoria received almost half of all total tourism spend (48% or 58.5 billion), while Tasmania experienced the largest growth in total spend (24%) of all the states for the year.






PURPOSE OF TRAVEL

The number of domestic overnight holiday trips increased 2% to 37.7 million, while nights were up 1% to 144 million. Holiday spend grew more strongly, up 9% to \$31.5 billion. Leading this growth were those aged 45 and over. They took 5% more holiday trips and on average spent more on their holidays than those aged under 45 (\$938 compared to \$758), due to their longer average length of stay (5 nights compared to 3 nights).

Domestic overnight trips for VFR increased 6% to 32.1 million, while spend was also up 6% to \$12.6 billion. The growth in VFR travel was largely due to an increase in those travelling alone, accounting for 74% of the growth in visitor numbers and 39% of the growth in spend.

While overnight business trips grew 8% to 19.9 million, spend for this purpose of travel increased only 2% to \$15.6 billion. This was due to business travellers taking more short trips of 1 to 3 nights (up 13% to 14.4 million) and less longer trips of 4 or more nights (down 4% to 5.5 million).

FIGURE 1: TOTAL STATE TOURISM SPEND, YEAR ENDING JUNE 2017

	 INT'L ²	 DOMESTIC O'NIGHT	 DOMESTIC DAY TRIPS	 TOTAL SPEND	 CHANGE ON YE JUNE 16
	BILLION				
NSW	\$10.1	\$17.2	\$5.9	\$33.2	7%
VIC	\$7.5	\$12.9	\$4.8	\$25.2	11%
QLD	\$5.2	\$15.4	\$4.2	\$24.9	3%
SA	\$1.1	\$3.8	\$1.4	\$6.3	5%
WA	\$2.5	\$7.2	\$2.2	\$11.9	0%
TAS	\$0.5	\$2.4	\$0.6	\$3.5	24%
NT	\$0.5	\$2.0	\$0.2	\$2.7	11%
ACT	\$0.5	\$1.6	\$0.3	\$2.5	16%
PRE-PAID SPEND*	\$12.7	-	-	\$12.7	0%
TOTAL	\$40.6	\$62.6	\$19.7	\$122.9	6%

* This includes airfares and travel packages booked before entering Australia.



ACCOMMODATION

With the VFR market performing strongly, nights spent at a friend's or relative's property were up 6% to 122 million. This accommodation type accounts for more than one-third (36%) of all domestic visitor nights (Figure 2).

Underpinned by increased business patronage, nights spent in hotels, resorts and motels grew strongly, up 6% to 85.4 million. Four and five-star luxury hotel accommodation performed particularly well, with nights up 14% to 31.6 million.

FIGURE 2: DOMESTIC NIGHTS BY ACCOMMODATION TYPE, YEAR ENDING JUNE 2017

	NIGHTS (MILLION)	SHARE OF TOTAL NIGHTS	CHANGE ON YE JUNE '16
FRIEND'S OR RELATIVE'S PROPERTY	122.4	36%	▲ 6%
HOTEL/RESORT/ MOTEL OR MOTOR INN	85.4	25%	▲ 6%
CARAVAN PARK OR COMMERCIAL CAMPING GROUND	32.3	10%	▼ 1%
RENTED HOUSE/ APARTMENT/ FLAT OR UNIT	28.5	8%	▲ 3%
OTHER	69.3	21%	0%

TRAVEL PARTY

Those travelling alone (10%) and adult couples (7%) showed the strongest growth in domestic overnight trips. Family groups (parents and children) increased only 3%, while there was no change at all for friends and relatives travelling together. Growth for those travelling alone was concentrated in the VFR and business travel segments, whereas growth for adult couples was most pronounced in the holiday market.

The strongest growth in domestic overnight spend was for adult couples (up 11% to \$16.5 billion) and family groups (up 11% to \$12.6 billion). A higher average trip spend was also seen for adult couples (\$703) and family groups (\$811) than for lone travellers (\$550) or friends and relatives travelling together (\$650).

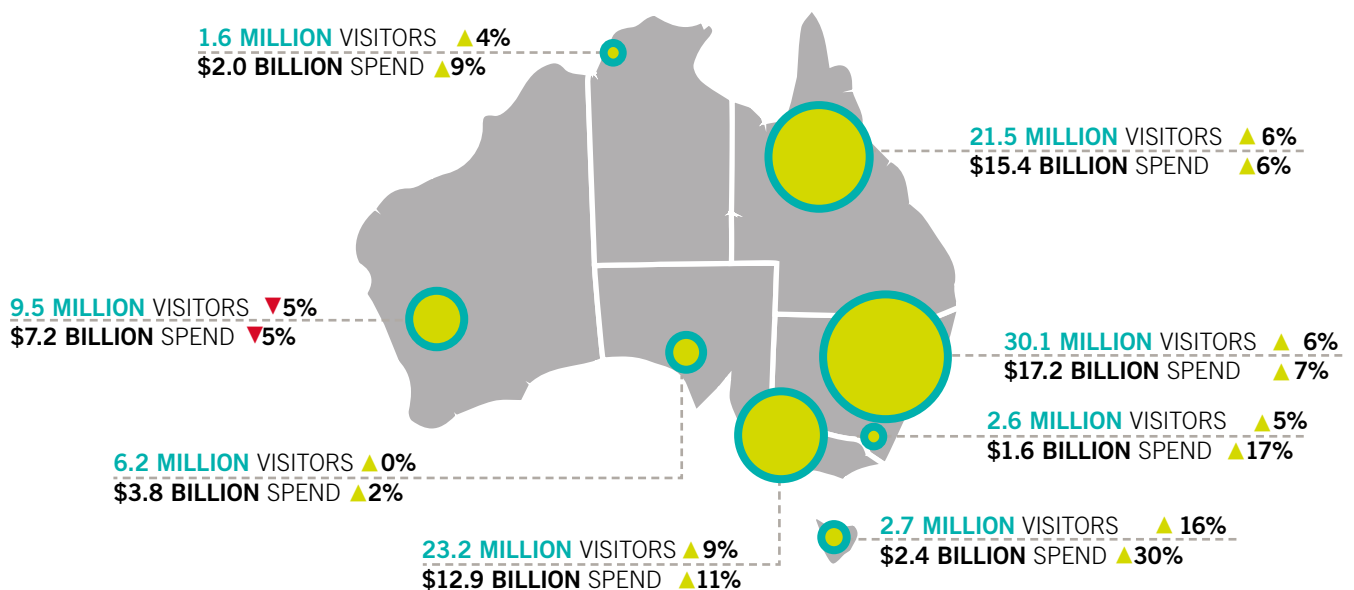
OUTBOUND³

Ten million Australians travelled overseas in the year ending June 2017 – an increase of 4% on the previous year. The most frequently visited countries were New Zealand (1.4 million visitors, up 5%); Indonesia (1.2 million, up 1%); and the United States (1.1 million, up 3%).

STATES AND TERRITORIES

The majority of states and territories recorded increases in domestic overnight trips and spend. Tasmania and Victoria recorded the largest growth in trips, while Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory saw the strongest growth in spend (Figure 3).

FIGURE 3: OVERNIGHT TRIPS AND SPEND BY STATE, YEAR ENDING JUNE 2017



Sources:

1. National Visitor Survey, June 2017.
2. International Visitor Survey, June 2017.
3. Overseas Arrivals and Departures (OAD), June 2017, ABS Cat. No. 3401.0