

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Additional Budget Senate Estimates

10 February 2010

Question: AR19
Topic: Outgoing Internationals
Proof Hansard Page: E12

Senator Eggleston asked:

Senator EGGLESTON—Tell me your numbers for outgoing internationals. Can we identify outgoing holidaymakers as against business travellers and so on?

Mr McEvoy—Are you talking about Australians going out?

Senator EGGLESTON—Yes.

Mr McEvoy—There has definitely been growth in Australians travelling overseas, with our strong dollar and a lot of low-cost carriage in new airlines. I would have to take on notice the specifics about the leisure element of that. I believe outbound growth is eight per cent year on year, generally, but that would include all sectors: employment, education, business et cetera. If you wanted me to give you the specific leisure number, we could get that.

Senator EGGLESTON—If you could do it on notice I would be grateful. Thank you.

Answer:

According to the latest National Visitor Survey – December 2009 (released in March 2010) there were 5.4 million international trips for the year ending September 2009. (Data for outbound trips is presented for the year ending September 2009 due to the 3 month recall period in the National Visitor Survey.) The most popular reason for outbound travel was holiday (53%) followed by visiting friends and relatives (25%) and business (19%).