



TRAVEL BY AUSTRALIANS

YEAR ENDING JUNE 2018

OVERNIGHT SPEND ▲8%
\$67.5 BILLION

OVERNIGHT TRIPS ▲7%
100.3 MILLION

NIGHTS ▲4%
362 MILLION

Domestic overnight travel saw strong growth for the year ending June 2018, with overnight trips up 7% to reach a record 100.3 million. The growth in overnight trips was reflected through strong gains in visitor spending which increased by 8% to a record \$67.5 billion. This was an increase of \$5 billion on the previous year.

In addition, Australians took over 200 million domestic day trips during the year which was an increase of 7%. Spend totalled \$21.4 billion, an increase of 9%.

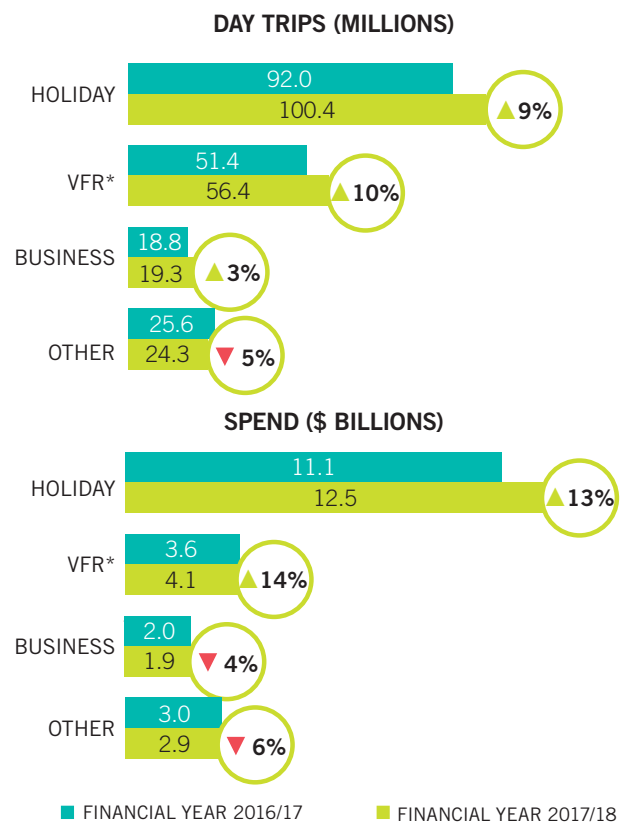
Underpinning the growth in overnight visitation were strong results for those travelling for the purpose of holiday, visiting friends and relatives, and business (see Table 1).

TABLE 1: DOMESTIC OVERNIGHT TRIPS AND SPEND BY PURPOSE OF TRIP

	YE JUNE '17	YE JUNE '18	% CHANGE
OVERNIGHT TRIPS (MILLIONS)			
HOLIDAY	37.8	40.6	▲ 7%
VFR*	32.1	33.8	▲ 5%
BUSINESS	19.9	22.0	▲ 11%
OTHER	6.7	6.5	▼ 3%
SPEND (\$ BILLIONS)			
HOLIDAY	\$31.5	\$33.3	▲ 6%
VFR*	\$12.6	\$13.9	▲ 10%
BUSINESS	\$15.6	\$17.2	▲ 11%
OTHER	\$2.8	\$3.1	▲ 8%

The increases in domestic day trip visitation was the result of strong growth in those travelling for holiday and visiting friends and relatives. Day trip business travel saw weaker results as these types of trips trended towards overnight travel during the year.

FIGURE 1: DOMESTIC DAY TRIPS AND SPEND BY PURPOSE OF TRIP



Domestic spend accounts for almost two-thirds of all overnight tourism spend (including international) and almost 70% of total tourism spend.

In general, domestic visitors demonstrated savvy travel behaviour during the year with growth in unpaid or cheaper accommodation, and more nature-based and outdoor activities in preference to paid activities.

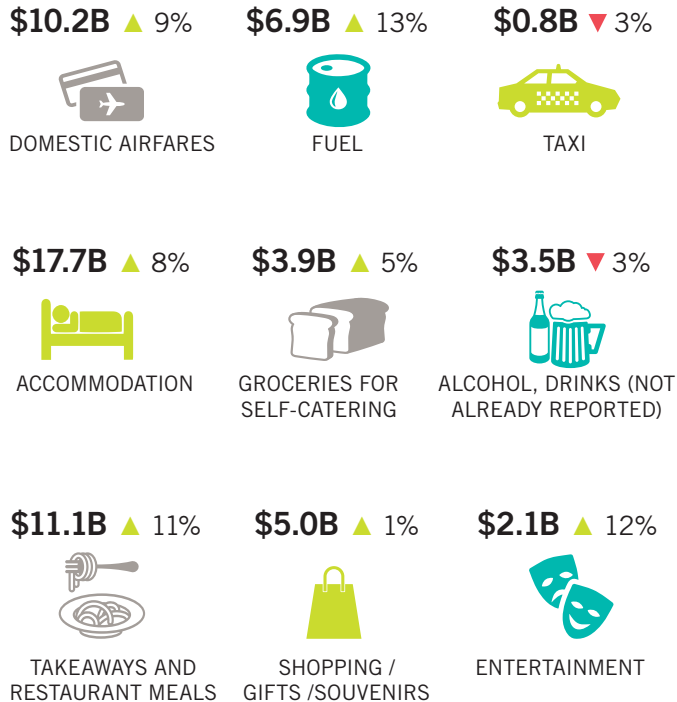
ITEMS OF SPEND

Underpinned by growth in interstate travel during the year, domestic overnight visitors spent \$10.2 billion on domestic airfares, up 9%. The record number of domestic overnight visitors also spent big on accommodation which saw an increase of 8% to \$17.7 billion, while spend on gambling dropped by 30% to \$188 million (see Figure 2).

*Visiting friends and relatives



FIGURE 2: SPEND ON DOMESTIC OVERNIGHT TRIPS BY ITEM OF SPEND



INTERSTATE TRAVEL

Interstate domestic overnight trips increased 9% during the year, growing to a record 33 million, while spend reached a record \$31.3 billion. Interstate travel is more lucrative than intrastate travel as average spend per interstate trip is \$947 per person, compared to \$524 for intrastate.

ACCOMMODATION

With the strong growth in domestic overnight trips for holiday and business travel there were strong increases in the number of nights spent in hotels, motels, resorts and motor-inns, up 7% to 92 million nights. Nights in rented apartments increased by 8% to 31 million. While from a lower base, the holiday growth was reflected in nights spent at non-commercial camping and caravan grounds, up 15% to 20 million nights.

The large increase in the number of domestic overnight trips to visit friends and relatives during the year saw nights spent at the home of a friend or relative increase 4% to reach 128 million. Another 13 million nights were spent at the traveller's own property (up 7%).

ACTIVITIES

The trend towards greater participation in outdoor and nature-based activities for domestic overnight trips continued. Trips that included a visit to botanical and public gardens increased 15% to 4.9 million, while those that included bushwalking increased 14% to 12.4 million. Visits to national or state parks were up 12% to 11.8 million, while visits to the beach were up 5% to 23.8 million. Activities that fell during the year included shopping for pleasure, going to the markets, going to the movies, visits to amusement and theme parks, and visits to casinos, pubs and nightclubs.

STATES AND TERRITORIES

Almost all states and territories saw growth in the number of overnight trips during the year. In terms of spend, the east coast recorded stronger growth.

FIGURE 2: OVERNIGHT TRIPS AND REGIONAL SPEND BY STATE, YE JUNE 2018

