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NATIONAL VISITOR SURVEY RESULTS

SEPTEMBER QUARTER 2024

## September quarter 2024

## In the September quarter 2024: Overnight spend was $28.8 billion, up 1% on the September quarter 2023. Overnight trips were 28.6 million, up 3% on the September quarter 2023 Nights away were 98.7 million, down 2% on the September quarter 2023.

## Year ending September 2024

In the year ending September 2024:

Overnight spend was $110.3 billion, up 1% on the year ending September 2023

Overnight trips were 114.5 million, up 3% on the year ending September 2023

Nights away were 397.4 million, down 1% on the year ending September 2023.

## Domestic tourism results remain stable

Continuing with the pattern seen in recent quarters, domestic tourism results remained stable in the September quarter 2024 when compared with the same quarter last year. Spend was up 1% and overnight trips were up 3%, while nights away were down 2%. Travel for business purposes and to capital cities was strong in the September quarter 2024 but was offset by weaker travel for holidays and to regional areas.

The year ending September 2024 saw a similar pattern of results. Spend was up 1%, overnight trips were up 3% and nights were down 1%, when compared with the year ending September 2023. The results for the September quarter 2024 and the year ending September 2024 continue to show that domestic travel growth has stabilised. Consistent with previous quarters, the results indicate that while Australians continue to travel, they are taking shorter trips with a view to managing costs.

**Figure 1. Percent change for spend, trips and nights compared the same period in the previous year, December quarter 2023 to September quarter 2024**

**Business travel was strong this quarter\***

Business travel performed strongly in the September quarter 2024 (Figure 2). Spend on business travel was up $681 million or 10% to $7.8 billion, overnight trips for business purposes were up 900,000 or 14% to 7.1 million and nights were up by 733,000 or 3% to 23.2 million compared with the September quarter 2023. Average spend per night on business trips increased by 6% from $312 in the September quarter 2023 to $331 in the September quarter 2024.

**Figure 2: Travel by reason, September quarter 2024 compared to the September quarter 2023**

\* Main reason used for trip expenditure, stopover reason used for trips and nights.

**Accessible tourism**

In the September quarter 2024, travellers with accessibility needs took 4.5 million overnight trips and spent $4.8 billion. This accounted for 20% of overnight trips and 21% of total overnight spend for the quarter.

The disability/long-term health conditions most reported amongst travellers in the September quarter 2024 (Figure 4) were:

* Food and chemical allergies – 7.5% of all overnight trips
* Mental health conditions – 5.6% of all overnight trips
* Non-wheelchair mobility issues – 4.6% of all overnight trips

**Figure 4: Types of disability of travellers with**

**accessibility needs, September quarter 2024**

**Travel to capital cities up**

September quarter 2024 saw stronger results for travel to capital cities. Spend was up $1.0 billion or 8%, overnight trips were up 1.0 million or 9% and nights away were up 691,000 or 2% compared with the September quarter 2023 (Figure 3). Travellers to capital cities spent more per night in the September quarter 2024 than in the same period last year, with average nightly spend up by 6% to $386 per night (from $365).

This was offset by softer results for travel to regional Australia in the September quarter 2024. In the regions pend was down $632 million or 4%, overnight trips were down 207,000 or 1% and nights away were down 3.2 million or 5% compared with the September quarter 2023.

**Figure 3: Change in capital city and regional Australia spend, trips and nights, SQ24 compared with SQ23**

## States and territories

At a state and territory level, results for overnight trips and spend were mixed in the September quarter 2024 when compared with the September quarter 2023 (Figure 5).

Increases in spend were seen in New South Wales (up $643 million or 9%), Victoria (up $138 million or 2%), Tasmania (up $52 million or 8%), Queensland (up $45 million or 1%) and the Northern Territory (up $23 million or 2%). This was largely offset by decreases in the other states and territories. Spend in Western Australia was down $329 million or 11%, South Australia was down $169 million or 10%, and the Australian Capital Territory was down $7 million or 1%.

Increases in overnight trips were seen for most states and territories. Overnight trips to Queensland were up 428,000 or 6%, trips to Victoria were up 335,000 or 5%, trips to New South Wales were up 173,000 or 2%, trips to the Northern Territory were up 114,000 or 24%, trips to Tasmania were up 61,000 or 9%, and trips to South Australia were up 43,000 or 2%. Comparatively, overnight trips to Western Australia were down 82,000 or 3% and trips to the Australian Capital Territory were down 28,000 or 3%.

**Figure 5. Overnight trips and spend by state and territory, September quarter 2024 compared to September quarter 2023** Figure 4 depicts an image of Australia that illustrates the number of trips and spend in each state or territory for the September quarter 2024. The per cent change on the September quarter 2023 is also shown.
• New South Wales – 9.0 million trips and $7.9 billion spend, up 2% and 9% respectively
• Victoria – 6.8 million trips and $5.7 billion spend, up 5% and 2% respectively
• Queensland – 7.3 million trips and $8.5 billion spend, up 6% and 1% respectively
• South Australia – 1.9 million trips and $1.5 billion spend, up 2% and down 10% respectively
• Western Australia – 2.7 million trips and $2.7 billion spend, down 3% and 11% respectively
• Tasmania – 0.7 million trips and $0.7 billion spend, up 9% and 8% respectively
• Northern Territory – 0.6 million trips and $1.0 billion spend, up 24% and 2% respectively
• Australian Capital Territory – 0.9 million trips and $0.7 billion spend, down 3% and 1% respectively.

**Daytrips**

In the year ending September 2024, Australians took 198.8 million daytrips and spent $30.7 billion during those day trips. Compared with the year ending September 2023 this was:

* down 23.4 million or 11% for trips
* down $3.0 billion or 9% for spend.

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