



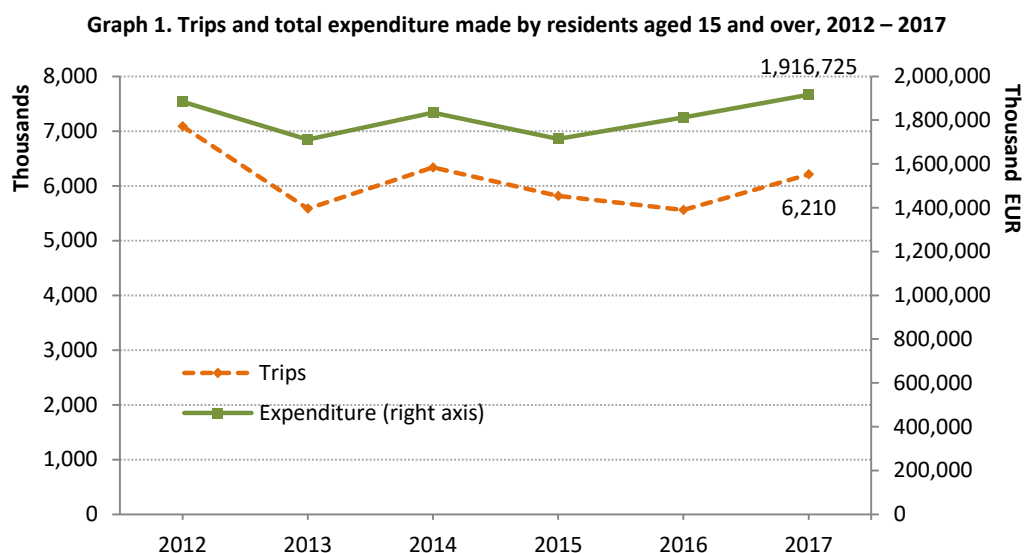
## PRESS RELEASE

### SURVEY ON QUALITATIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF RESIDENT TOURISTS: 2017

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the data of the survey on the Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists for the reference year 2017. On the basis of these data, in 2017, the residents of any age who made at least one trip amounted to 4.5 million and 7.5 million trips were made, recording an increase of 10.2% and 12.6%, respectively, compared with 2016. The total number of nights spent amounted to 71.7 million and the expenditure to 2,077.2 million euro, recording an increase of 8.3% and 6.6%, respectively, compared with 2016 (Table 1).

On the basis of available survey data, the residents aged 15 and over who made at least one trip in 2017 amounted to 3.7 million and 6.2 million trips were made, recording an increase of 9.8% and 11.7%, respectively, compared with 2016. In 2017, the total number of nights spent by these residents amounted to 61.5 million and the expenditure to 1,916.7 million euro, recording an increase of 9.2% and 5.7%, respectively, compared with 2016 (Table 1).

As regards the purpose of the aforementioned trips made by residents aged 15 and over, 95.3% of the trips were made for personal reasons and 4.7 % were business trips (Graph 2).



**Information:**

Trade and Services Statistics Division  
Tourism Statistics Section  
A. Katri, A. Moraitis, M. Laftsidou  
Tel: +30 213 135 2168  
Fax: +30 213 135 2947  
E-mail: [tourism.sector@statistics.gr](mailto:tourism.sector@statistics.gr)

When comparing the 2017 data on trips made for personal purposes with the corresponding 2016 data, it is observed an increase of 10.6% in the number of persons who made at least one trip, 14.0% in the number of trips, 11.9% in the number of nights spent and 7.0% in the relevant expenditure (Tables 1, 2, 4, 9, 13 and 16).

The most significant increase, in absolute values, in the number of residents that made at least on trip for personal purposes and in the number of personal trips is recorded for the age group 45 to 64 years, 14.2% and 16.7%, respectively (Tables 3 and 6). For this specific age group the number of nights spent increased by 17.9% (Table 10) and the relevant expenditure by 7.7% (Table 14).

As regards the duration of the trips, an increase is observed for the number of personal trips lasted 1-3, 4-7 and 15 and over nights spent. The biggest increase, in absolute values, 33.9% in the number of trips and 32.1% in the number of nights spent, was recorded for trips lasted 4-7 nights spent. On the contrary, a decrease of 8.4% in the number of trips and 7.5% in the number of nights spent was recorded for trips lasted 8 to 14 nights (Tables 7 and 11).

Most of personal trips were made by a land means of transport (4.1 million trips) and by sea (1.0 million trips). When comparing the 2017 data with the corresponding 2016 data, a significant increase, in absolute values, is observed in the number of trips made by a land means of transport, which increased by 15.7%, and in the number of trips made by air, which increased by 21.6% (Table 7).

For the 65.8% of personal trips the main type of accommodation was a non-rented one, referring mainly to own holiday homes and accommodation provided without charge by relatives and friends. Personal trips spent in non-rented accommodation account for 81.4% of the total number of nights spent. Trips spent in an own holiday home recorded an increase of 15.2% in 2017 compared with 2016. Similarly, trips spent in accommodation establishments provided without charge by relatives and friends and other non-rented accommodation establishments were increased by 13.4%. The corresponding nights spent increased 20.1% and 7.0%, accordingly (Table 12, Graph 11).

The main type of accommodation of personal trips spent in rented accommodation establishments (34.2% of personal trips) was hotels and similar establishments, representing 68.4% of such trips. Trips whose type of accommodation was hotels and similar accommodation establishments recorded an increase of 20.9% and an increase of 16.2% in nights spent in 2017 compared with 2016 (Table 12, Graph 11).

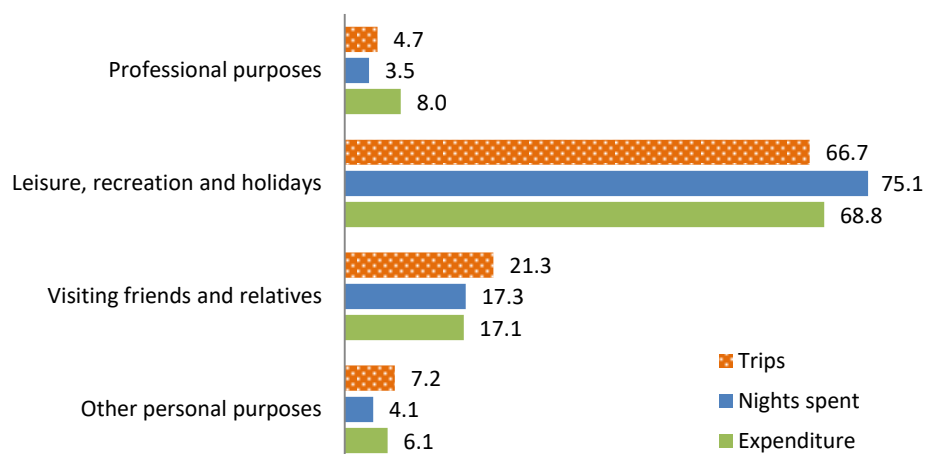
**Table 1. Resident tourists, trips, nights spent and total expenditure by main purpose of trip, 2016 – 2017**

*In thousands, expenditure in thousand EUR*

	Residents <sup>(1)</sup>			Trips			Nights spent			Expenditure		
	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total (all ages)</b>	<b>4,049</b>	<b>4,463</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>6,641</b>	<b>7,475</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>66,157</b>	<b>71,678</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>1,948,576</b>	<b>2,077,226</b>	<b>6.6</b>
<b>Total (aged 15 and over)</b>	<b>3,337</b>	<b>3,664</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>5,559</b>	<b>6,210</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>56,339</b>	<b>61,514</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>1,812,900</b>	<b>1,916,725</b>	<b>5.7</b>
<b>Professional purposes</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>-9.3</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>-20.1</b>	<b>3,292</b>	<b>2,145</b>	<b>-34.8</b>	<b>165,184</b>	<b>153,965</b>	<b>-6.8</b>
<b>Personal purposes</b>	<b>3,249</b>	<b>3,593</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>5,192</b>	<b>5,917</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>53,047</b>	<b>59,368</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>1,647,717</b>	<b>1,762,760</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Leisure, recreation and holidays	2,478	2,731	10.2	3,659	4,145	13.3	39,954	46,196	15.6	1,238,892	1,318,145	6.4
Visiting friends and relatives	849	935	10.1	1,243	1,325	6.6	10,748	10,669	-0.7	317,083	326,934	3.1
Other personal purposes	223	327	46.9	290	447	54.0	2,345	2,503	6.8	91,741	117,681	28.3

(1) The data on persons do not sum up in the total, as a person may make more than one trip in a year, for different purposes each time.

**Graph 2. Trips, nights spent and total expenditure made by residents aged 15 and over by main purpose of trip, 2017 (%)**

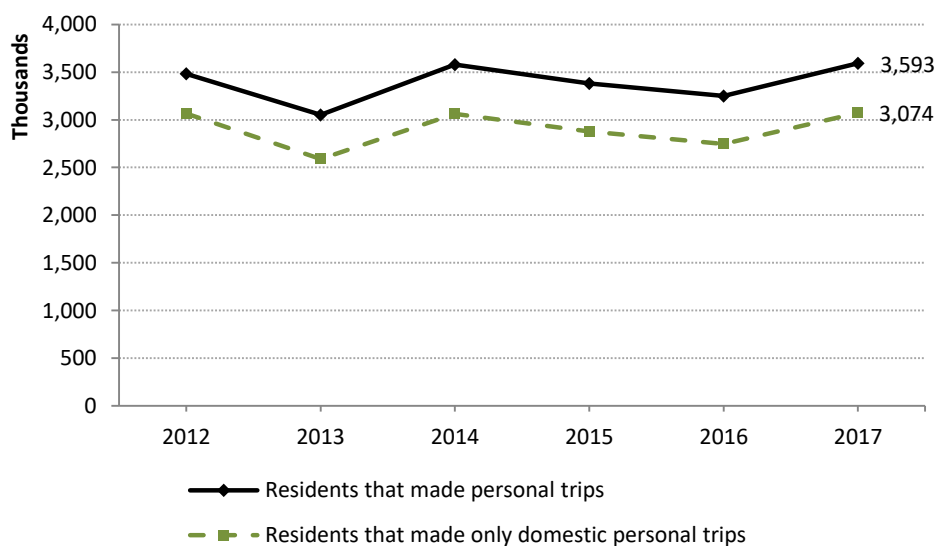


**Table 2. Residents aged 15 and over that made personal trips, 2012 – 2017**

*In thousands*

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,483</b>	<b>3,051</b>	<b>3,579</b>	<b>3,381</b>	<b>3,249</b>	<b>3,593</b>
Annual change %		-12.4	17.3	-5.5	-3.9	10.6
Of whom residents that made only domestic trips	3,065	2,590	3,062	2,878	2,747	3,074
Annual change %		-15.5	18.2	-6.0	-4.6	11.9

**Graph 3. Residents aged 15 and over that made personal trips, 2012 – 2017**

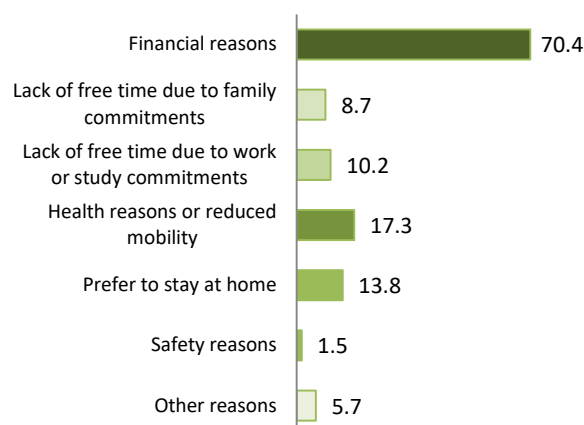


**Table 3. Residents aged 15 and over that made personal trips by gender and age group, 2016 – 2017**

*In thousands*

	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,249</b>	<b>3,593</b>	<b>10.6</b>
<b>Gender</b>			
Men	1,533	1,693	10.4
Women	1,716	1,899	10.7
<b>Age groups</b>			
15-24	394	439	11.5
25-44	1,260	1,308	3.8
45-64	1,107	1,265	14.2
65+	489	581	19.0

**Graph 4. Reasons reported<sup>(2)</sup> for not making any personal trip, 2017 (%)**



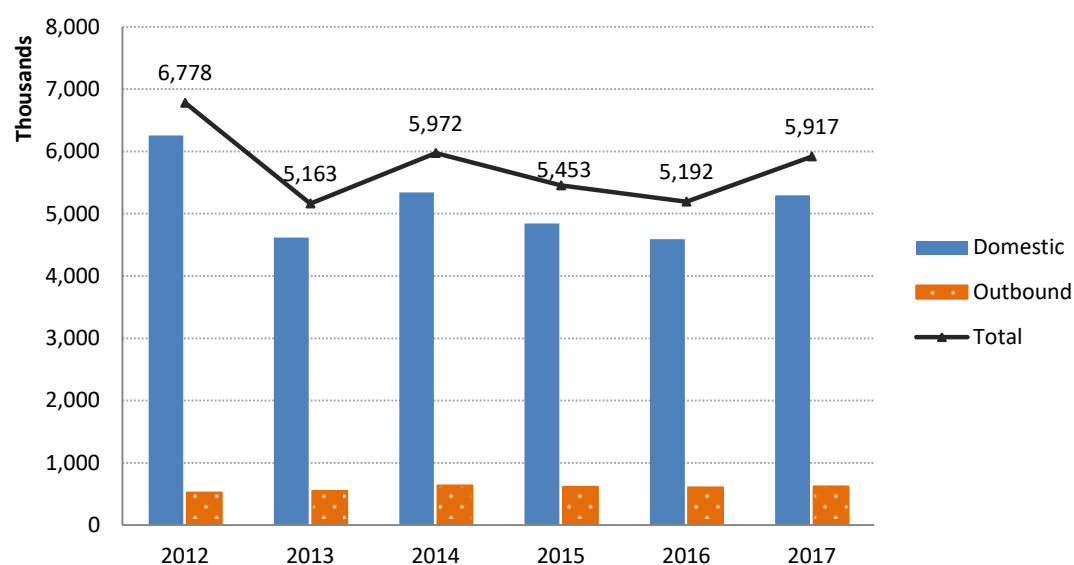
(2) The respondents could report more than one reason.

**Table 4. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2012 – 2017**

*In thousands*

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,778</b>	<b>5,163</b>	<b>5,972</b>	<b>5,453</b>	<b>5,192</b>	<b>5,917</b>
Annual change %		-23.8	15.7	-8.7	-4.8	14.0
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>6,257</b>	<b>4,615</b>	<b>5,340</b>	<b>4,842</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>5,296</b>
Annual change %		-26.2	15.7	-9.3	-5.2	15.4
<b>Outbound</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>621</b>
Annual change %		5.1	15.3	-3.2	-1.5	3.2

**Graph 5. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2012 – 2017**

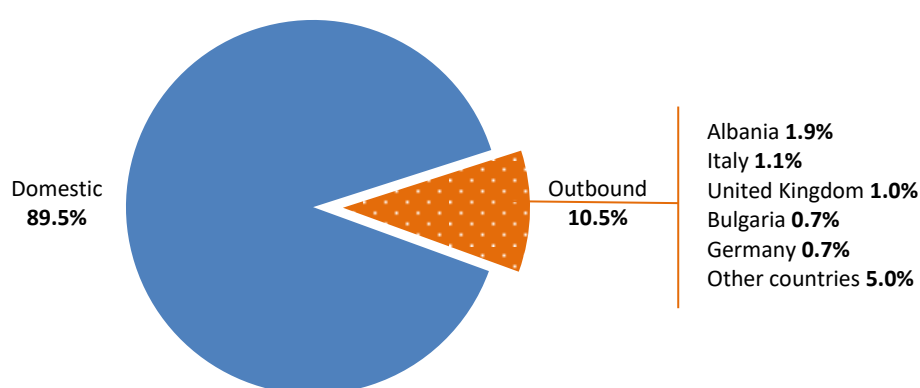


**Table 5. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2017**

*In thousands*

	Total trips	Domestic trips	Outbound trips	5 main destinations of outbound trips				
				Albania	Italy	United Kingdom	Bulgaria	Germany
Trips	5,917	5,296	621	113	67	57	44	41
% of trips	100.0	89.5	10.5	1.9	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.7
			% of outbound trips	18.3	10.8	9.2	7.0	6.6

**Graph 6. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2017**



**Table 6. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by gender and age group, 2016 – 2017**

*In thousands*

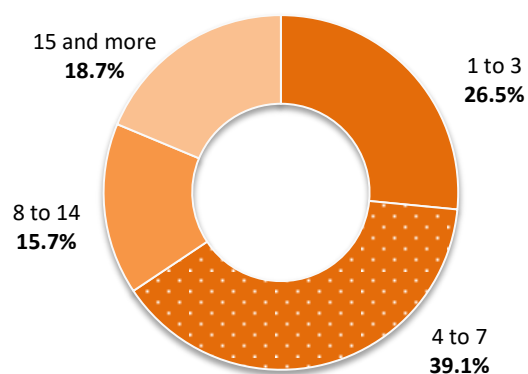
	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,192</b>	<b>5,917</b>	<b>14.0</b>
Gender			
Men	2,407	2,759	14.6
Women	2,785	3,158	13.4
Age groups			
15-24	585	704	20.4
25-44	1,978	2,130	7.7
45-64	1,841	2,149	16.7
65+	788	934	18.5

**Table 7. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by duration and main mode of transport, 2016 – 2017**

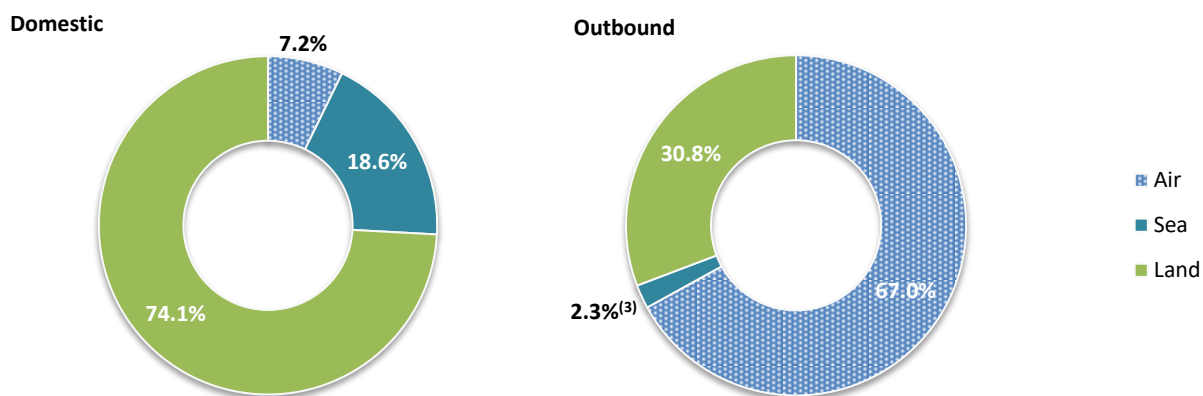
*In thousands*

	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,192</b>	<b>5,917</b>	<b>14.0</b>
Duration of trip in nights spent			
1 to 3	1,433	1,570	9.6
4 to 7	1,728	2,314	33.9
8 to 14	1,012	926	-8.4
15 and over	1,020	1,107	8.6
Main mode of transport			
Air	656	798	21.6
Sea	979	1,001	2.3
Land	3,558	4,118	15.7

**Graph 7. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by duration (nights spent), 2017**



**Graph 8. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination and main mode of transport, 2017**



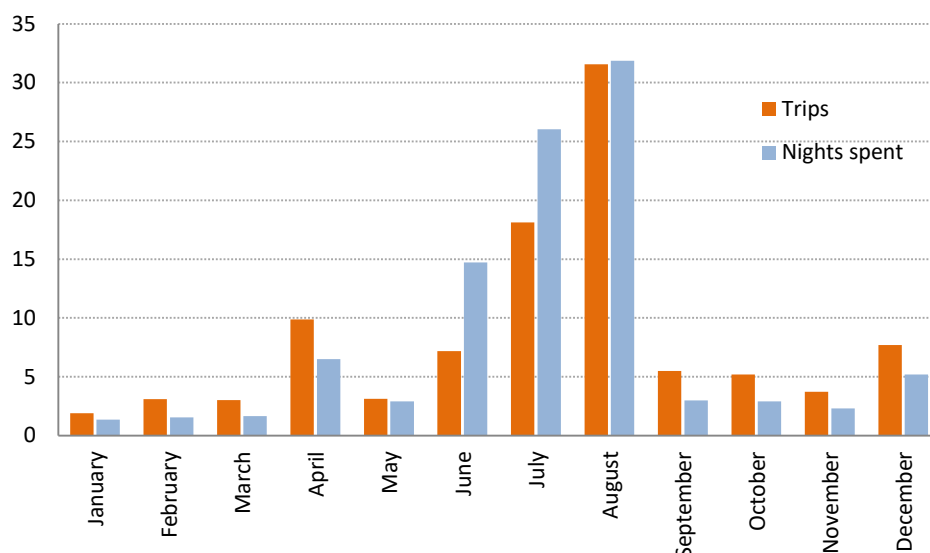
(3) The estimation is based on a small sample.

**Table 8. Personal trips and nights spent by residents aged 15 and over by month of departure, 2017**

*In thousands*

	Trips		Nights spent	
			Trips %	Nights spent %
Total	5,917	59,368	100.0	100.0
January	112	806	1.9	1.4
February	184	921	3.1	1.6
March	179	978	3.0	1.6
April	584	3,859	9.9	6.5
May	185	1,732	3.1	2.9
June	425	8,744	7.2	14.7
July	1,072	15,451	18.1	26.0
August	1,867	18,912	31.6	31.9
September	325	1,770	5.5	3.0
October	307	1,731	5.2	2.9
November	220	1,379	3.7	2.3
December	456	3,086	7.7	5.2

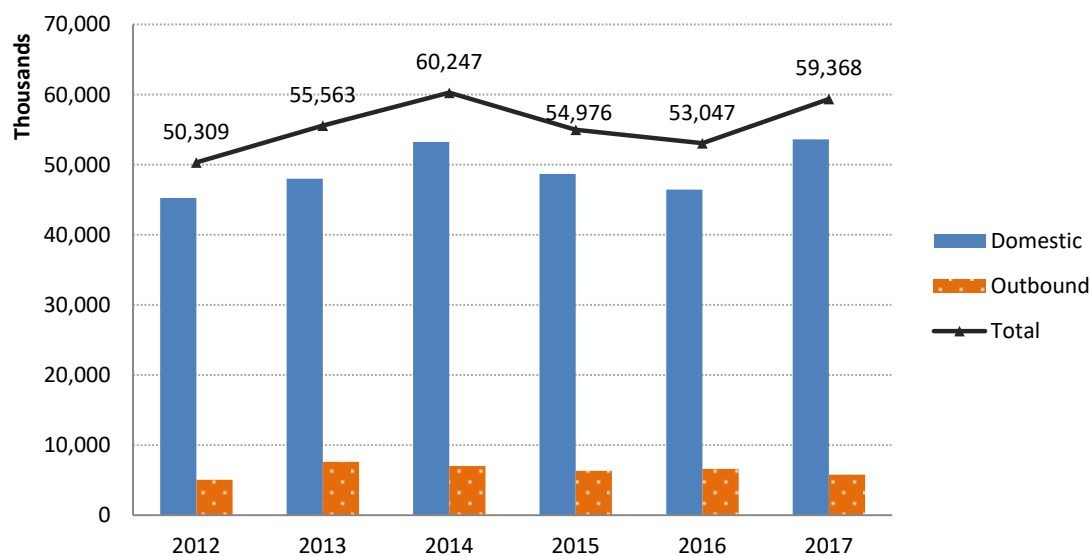
**Graph 9. Personal trips and nights spent by residents aged 15 and over by month of departure, 2017 (%)**



**Table 9. Nights spent of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2012 – 2017**  
*In thousands*

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,309</b>	<b>55,563</b>	<b>60,247</b>	<b>54,976</b>	<b>53,047</b>	<b>59,368</b>
Annual change %		10.4	8.4	-8.8	-3.5	11.9
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>45,246</b>	<b>47,955</b>	<b>53,212</b>	<b>48,660</b>	<b>46,438</b>	<b>53,578</b>
Annual change %		6.0	11.0	-8.6	-4.6	15.4
<b>Outbound</b>	<b>5,063</b>	<b>7,609</b>	<b>7,036</b>	<b>6,316</b>	<b>6,609</b>	<b>5,791</b>
Annual change %		50.3	-7.5	-10.2	4.6	-12.4

**Graph 10. Nights spent of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2012 – 2017**



**Table 10. Nights spent of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by gender and age group, 2016 – 2017**

*In thousands*

	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,047</b>	<b>59,368</b>	<b>11.9</b>
<b>Gender</b>			
Men	24,201	27,247	12.6
Women	28,846	32,121	11.4
<b>Age groups</b>			
15-24	5,967	6,638	11.3
25-44	16,165	15,938	-1.4
45-64	17,278	20,368	17.9
65+	13,637	16,423	20.4

**Table 11. Nights spent of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by duration and main mode of transport, 2016 – 2017**

*In thousands*

	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,047</b>	<b>59,368</b>	<b>11.9</b>
<b>Duration of trip in nights spent</b>			
1 to 3	3,301	3,589	8.7
4 to 7	9,362	12,367	32.1
8 to 14	10,240	9,468	-7.5
15 and over	30,144	33,944	12.6
<b>Main mode of transport</b>			
Air	6,940	7,165	3.2
Sea	11,945	11,960	0.1
Land	34,162	40,243	17.8

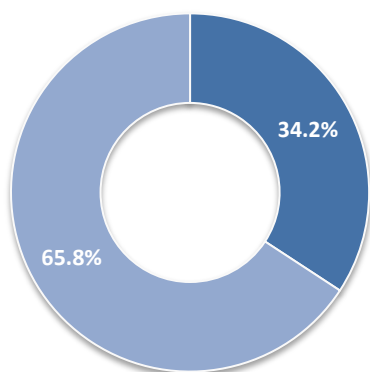
**Table 12. Personal trips and nights spent of residents aged 15 and over by type of accommodation, 2016 – 2017**

*In thousands*

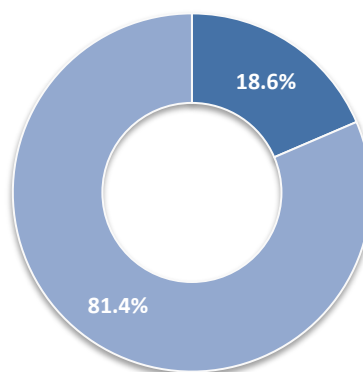
	Trips			Nights spent		
	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,192</b>	<b>5,917</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>53,047</b>	<b>59,368</b>	<b>11.9</b>
<b>Rented accommodation</b>	<b>1,778</b>	<b>2,025</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>10,614</b>	<b>11,019</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Hotels and similar establishments	1,146	1,386	20.9	5,837	6,783	16.2
Rooms for rent and rented houses, tourist campsites, other rented accommodation	632	639	1.2	4,777	4,235	-11.3
<b>Non-rented accommodation</b>	<b>3,414</b>	<b>3,892</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>42,433</b>	<b>48,349</b>	<b>13.9</b>
Own holiday home	1,186	1,366	15.2	22,587	27,120	20.1
Accommodation provided without charge by relatives and friends, other non-rented accommodation	2,228	2,527	13.4	19,846	21,229	7.0

**Graph 11. Personal trips and nights spent of residents aged 15 and over by type of accommodation, 2017**

**Trips**



**Nights spent**



■ Rented accommodation  
■ Non-rented accommodation

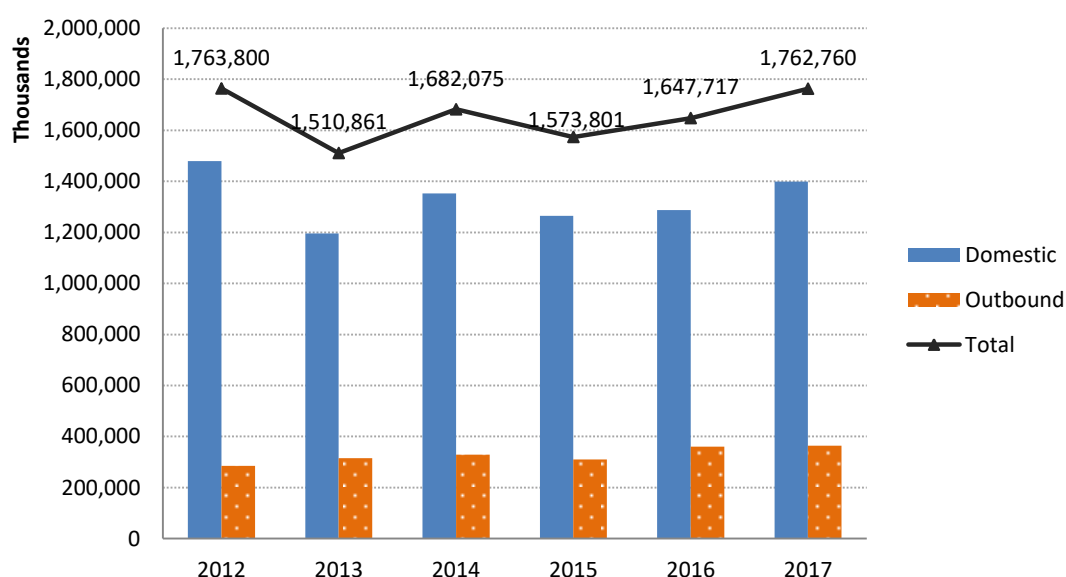


**Table 13. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2012 – 2017**

*In thousand EUR*

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,763,800</b>	<b>1,510,861</b>	<b>1,682,075</b>	<b>1,573,801</b>	<b>1,647,717</b>	<b>1,762,760</b>
Annual change %		-14.3	11.3	-6.4	4.7	7.0
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>1,478,725</b>	<b>1,195,091</b>	<b>1,352,466</b>	<b>1,264,126</b>	<b>1,286,736</b>	<b>1,398,365</b>
Annual change %		-19.2	13.2	-6.5	1.8	8.7
<b>Outbound</b>	<b>285,074</b>	<b>315,770</b>	<b>329,608</b>	<b>309,675</b>	<b>360,981</b>	<b>364,395</b>
Annual change %		10.8	4.4	-6.0	16.6	0.9

**Graph 12. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2012 – 2017**



**Table 14. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by gender and age group, 2016 – 2017**

*In thousand EUR*

	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,647,717</b>	<b>1,762,760</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<b>Gender</b>			
Men	752,175	820,026	9.0
Women	895,542	942,733	5.3
<b>Age groups</b>			
15-24	167,700	182,812	9.0
25-44	626,771	632,799	1.0
45-64	580,669	625,146	7.7
65+	272,576	322,004	18.1

**Table 15. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by duration and main mode of transport, 2016 – 2017**

*In thousand EUR*

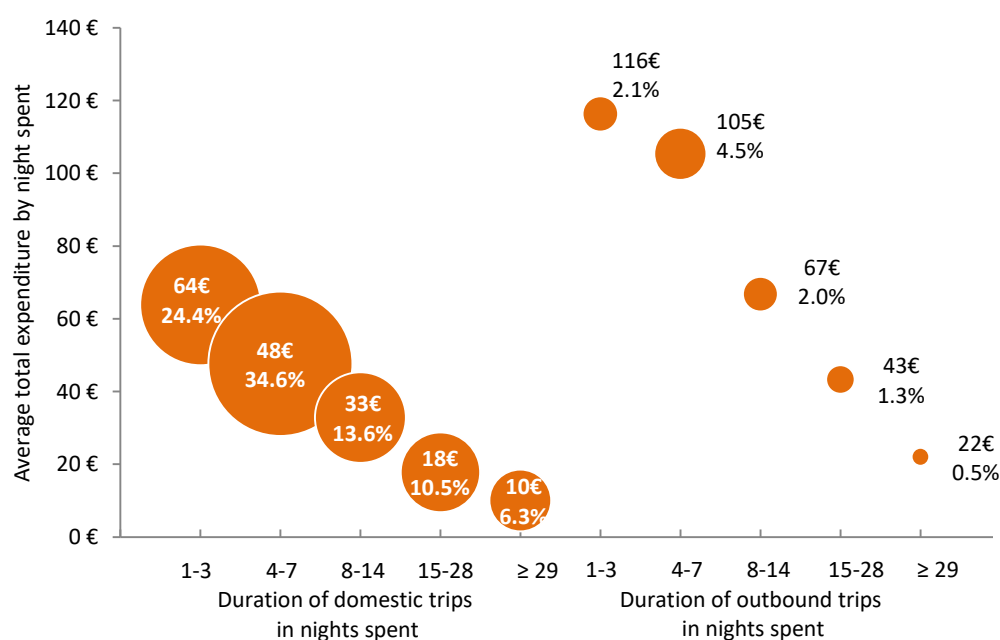
	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,647,717</b>	<b>1,762,760</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<b>Duration of trip in nights spent</b>			
1 to 3	224,289	245,651	9.5
4 to 7	556,492	671,630	20.7
8 to 14	376,711	352,386	-6.5
15 and over	490,226	493,093	0.6
<b>Main mode of transport</b>			
Air	404,374	444,204	9.8
Sea	379,726	373,426	-1.7
Land	863,617	945,129	9.4

**Table 16. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by type of expenditure and destination of the trip, 2016 – 2017**

*In thousand EUR*

	2016	2017	Change % 2017/2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,647,717</b>	<b>1,762,760</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Accommodation	268,920	291,838	8.5
Food and drinks in cafés and restaurants	572,027	569,925	-0.4
Transport	401,816	448,817	11.7
Other expenditure	404,953	452,179	11.7

**Graph 13. Average total expenditure (EUR) per night of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination and duration of the trip, 2017**



Note: The size of bubbles depicts the share (%) of personal trips.

The labels include the average total expenditure per night and the share (%) of personal trips.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

<b>Survey on Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists</b>	<p>The Survey on Qualitative Characteristics of Residents Tourists is conducted in all EU Member States pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council. The purpose of the survey is to collect data on the characteristics of resident tourists, tourist expenditure and contribution of several socio-demographic groups in tourism and their behavior, with the aim of drawing national and European policy in the tourism sector. Data are collected for the number of tourists, trips, nights spent and expenditure incurred during these trips. Furthermore, data are collected on the characteristics of resident tourists e.g., age, gender, and on the characteristics of every trip, such as purpose of the trip, destination, transportation means, type of accommodation establishment, etc.</p>
<b>Legal framework</b>	<a href="#">Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council</a>
<b>Statistical units</b>	<p>For participation in tourism, the statistical unit is the individual.</p> <p>For tourism trips and visitors making the trips, the statistical unit is the trip made by the individual.</p>
<b>Methodology</b>	<p>The Survey on Qualitative Characteristics of Residents Tourists is a sample survey on households that is conducted on a yearly basis. For each household a questionnaire is filled in pertaining to all the trips made by each household member during the reference year. The surveyed households are derived from the sample of the Labour Force Survey which is selected using a two-stage stratified sampling method. The primary unit of the survey is the surface area (one or more subsequent city blocks) and secondary unit is the household. The ultimate unit of the survey is the household.</p>
<b>Reference area</b>	The whole territory of Greece.
<b>Reference period</b>	Calendar year 2017.
<b>Statistical concepts and definitions</b>	<p><b>Resident:</b> any natural person, irrespective of citizenship, normally residing or having the intention to reside for a period of at least 12 months in Greece.</p> <p><b>Usual residence:</b> the place where a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holidays, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage.</p> <p><b>Usual environment:</b> the geographical area, though not necessarily a contiguous one, within which an individual conducts the regular life routines.</p> <p><b>Tourism trip:</b> trip with at least one night spent to a main destination outside one's usual environment, for less than a year, for any main purpose, including business, leisure or other personal purpose, other than to be employed by a resident entity in the place visited.</p> <p><b>Personal trip:</b> trip whose purpose is vacation, leisure, rest, recreation, visiting friends and relatives, beyond the traveler's daily routine and activities, as well as other trips for pilgrim or health care purposes, etc.</p> <p><b>Business trip:</b> trip related to the visitor's work, beyond his/her daily routine and activities.</p> <p><b>Main means of transport:</b> the means of transport that was used for the trip. If different modes of transport were used to get to (or from) the destination, the one that covered the longest distance is reported.</p> <p><b>Expenditure:</b> money spent on accommodation, food, transport, and other trip-related expenses e.g., for cultural, recreational activities, purchase of clothing, footwear, purchase of consumables and big-value goods, purchase of food, beverages, drinks, presents, souvenirs, etc.</p> <p><b>Rented accommodation establishments:</b> hotels and similar establishments, therapeutic centres, camping grounds, conference centres, passenger transport means, other rented accommodation establishments, such as mountain refuges, youth hostels, etc.</p> <p><b>Non-rented accommodation establishments:</b> own holiday homes, accommodation provided without charge by relatives and friends and other owner-occupied accommodation provided for free (caravans, tents, etc.).</p> <p>The statistical concepts and definitions of the survey are described in <a href="#">Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council</a>. Further information on the definitions and the methodology of the survey are available in the <a href="#">Methodological Manual for Tourism Statistics</a>.</p>
<b>References</b>	<p>More information on the survey results is available on the website of ELSTAT at:</p> <p><a href="http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/STO15/-">http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/STO15/-</a></p>