

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

Piraeus, 23 January 2014

PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENT ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: January - September 2013

According to the Frontier Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period January-September of 2013, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 15,2%, as compared with the corresponding period of the year 2012.

More specifically, arrivals from Europe, which account for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (88,7%), registered an increase of 13,6% in January-September 2013 as compared with the corresponding period of 2012, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded an increase of 6,6%. Arrivals from Russia, France, Serbia, Germany, Poland, Netherlands and Italy showed a significant increase in absolute values. On the other hand, a significant decrease of arrivals was observed in the cases of United Kingdom, Spain, Norway and Cyprus. As regards to the distribution of arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals came from Germany (12,2%), the United Kingdom (10,2%), Russia (7,8%), France (6,7%), and Italy (5,7%). Moreover, the corresponding data for the rest of the continents show a significant increase of arrivals, in absolute values, from Asia, with a large contribution of arrivals from Turkey, and from America, with a large contribution from USA and Canada (Table 1).

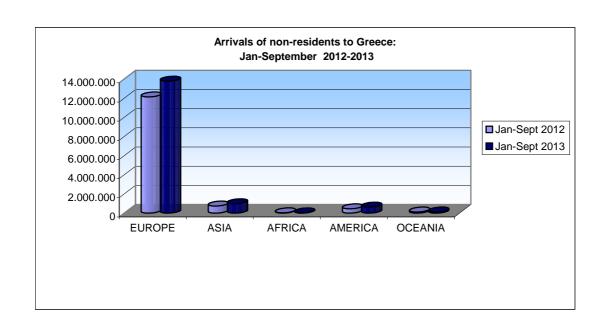
As regards the means of transport and the point of entry, during the aforementioned time period, it is observed that most arrivals are by air and by road. As far as the arrivals by air are concerned, the airport of Iraklion holds the first place with (13,9%) followed by the airport of Athens with (13,6%) and Rodos with (10,2%). The main point of entry which accounts for the biggest share of traffic, by road, is Evzoni with (11,4%) (Table 3).

Detailed data for the period January-September of the years 2013 and 2012 respectively are provided in the attached tables and charts and these can also be found on the portal of ELSTAT (www.statistics.gr, under the link Statistical Themes/Tourism).

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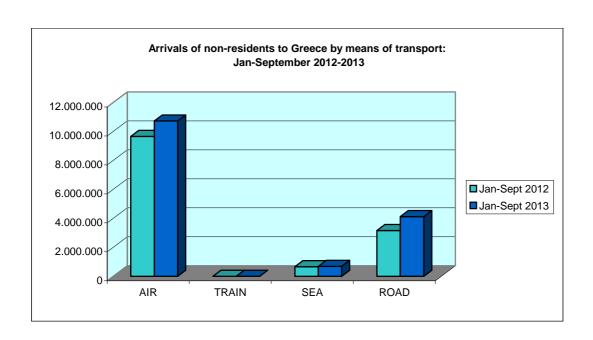


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-September 2013

Analysis by country of residence		Jan-Septen		% change	% sł	
I. EUROPE		2012	2013	2013/2012	2012	2013
		12.138.597	13.783.529	13,6	90,0%	88,7%
EUROPEAN UN	ION	8.544.521	9.110.706	6,6	63,4%	58,7%
	Austria	218.600	219.466	0,4	1,6%	1,4%
	Belgium	296.145	314.523	6,2	2,2%	2,0%
	Bulgaria	446.949	518.139	15,9	3,3%	3,3%
	France	887.152	1.037.041	16,9	6,6%	6,7%
	Germany	1.769.209	1.890.420	6,9	13,1%	12,2%
	Denmark	185.944	181.485	-2,4	1,4%	1,2%
	Estonia	4.272	6.653	55,7	0,0%	0,0%
	United Kingdom	1.700.687	1.578.128	-7,2	12,6%	10,2%
	Ireland	27.966	39.038	39,6	0,2%	0,3%
	Spain	142.325	80.755	-43,3	1,1%	0,5%
	Italy (1)	780.007	889.083	14,0	5,8%	5,7%
	Croatia (1)	-	3.686	-	-	0,0%
	Cyprus	340.541	315.778	-7,3	2,5%	2,0%
	Latvia	6.547	17.980	174,6	0,0%	0,1%
	Lithuania	19.053	25.853	35,7	0,1%	0,2%
	Luxemburg	14.441	18.117	25,5	0,1%	0,1%
	Malta	2.206	1.064	-51,8	0,0%	0,0%
	Netherlands	410.543	520.113	26,7	3,0%	3,3%
	Hungary	66.846	75.281	12,6	0,5%	0,5%
	Poland	241.885	361.677	49,5	1,8%	2,3%
	Portugal	17.680 197.637	12.142	-31,3	0,1%	0,1%
	Romania		233.489	18,1	1,5%	1,5%
	Slovakia	43.260	45.231	4,6	0,3%	0,3%
	Slovenia	33.580	18.335	-45,4	0,2%	0,1%
	Sweden Czech Republic	287.031 273.832	331.815 263.026	15,6	2,1%	2,1% 1,7%
	Finland	130.182	112.388	-3,9 -13,7	2,0% 1,0%	0,7%
Albania	rinianu	360.531	384.936	6,8	2,7%	2,5%
Switzerland		261.275	294.546	12,7	1,9%	1,9%
Norway		266.856	236.115	-11,5	2,0%	1,5%
Iceland		1.291	1.120	-13,2	0.0%	0.0%
Russia		811.820	1.212.649	49,4	6,0%	7,8%
Serbia		601.113	745.472	24,0	4,5%	4,8%
Other European coun	tries	1.291.190	1.797.985	39,3	9,6%	11,6%
II. ASIA		741.971	982.054	32,4	5,5%	6,3%
Japan		7.694	9.370	21,8	0,1%	0,1%
ran		11.924	2.362	-80,2	0,1%	0.0%
srael		171.000	187.606	9,7	1,3%	1,2%
China		9.705	17.953	85,0	0,1%	0,1%
_ebanon-Syria		8.478	26.334	210,6	0,1%	0,2%
S.Korea		4.860	5.175	6,5	0,0%	0,0%
Turkey		466.166	675.802	45,0	3,5%	4,4%
Other Middle East co	untries	15.359	22.436	46,1	0,1%	0,1%
Other Asian countries		46.785	35.016	-25,2	0,3%	0,2%
II. AFRICA		33.753	26.604	-21,2	0,3%	0,2%
Egypt-Sudan		4.274	3.916	-8,4	0,0%	0,0%
South Africa		18.274	14.518	-20,6	0,1%	0,1%
Other African countrie	es	11.206	8.170	-27,1	0,1%	0,1%
V. AMERICA		454.509	624.335	37,4	3,4%	4,0%
Argentina		17.806	21.926	23,1	0,1%	0,1%
Brazil		24.438	23.265	-4,8	0,2%	0,1%
Mexico		7.278	15.585	114,1	0,1%	0,1%
United States		297.975	376.148	26,2	2,2%	2,4%
Canada		86.878	163.451	88,1	0,6%	1,1%
Other American coun	tries	20.133	23.960	19,0	0,1%	0,2%
V. OCEANIA		1	117.386		0,176	
		114.159		2,8		0,8%
Australia Other Oceanian coun	triae	100.627	105.167	4,5	0,7%	0,7%
Other Oceanian coun		13.532	12.219	-9,7	0,1%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-re	esiaents	13.482.989	15.533.907	15,2	100,0%	100,0%
TOTAL ARRIVALS		13.482.989	15.533.907	15,2	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Frontier Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Note: Wherever necessary, the data have been rounded to the next final digit. Thus, a slight difference may be noted between the sum of the figures and their total.

⁽¹⁾ From the 1st of July 2013 onwards, after the accession of Croatia to the EU, the data for this country are presented together with the other EU Member States. The corresponding data for the first semester 2013, as well as for the previous years are included under "Other European countries".

Table 2: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence and means of transport: January-September 2013

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY (1)	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL	
I. EUROPE	9.660.442	0	611.907	3.511.179	13.783.528	
EUROPEAN UNION	7.719.941	0	563.120	827.644	9.110.705	
Austria	194.498	0	19.674	5.294	219.466	
Belgium	306.135	0	8.388	0	314.523	
Bulgaria	11.206	0	71.467	435.465	518.138	
France	994.620	0	38.588	3.833	1.037.041	
Germany	1.569.881	0	104.454	216.086	1.890.420	
Denmark	179.894	0	1.325	266	181.485	
Estonia	6.653	0	0	0	6.653	
United Kingdom	1.562.545	0	15.584	0	1.578.128	
Ireland	38.531	0	507	0	39.038	
Spain	75.651	0	5.104	0	80.755	
Italy	649.577	0	231.714	7.793	889.084	
Croatia (2)	1.152	0	2.534	0	3.686	
Cyprus	313.068	0	2.710	0	315.778	
Latvia	16.827	0	0	1.153	17.980	
Lithuania	23.058	0	963	1.831	25.853	
Luxemburg	17.443	0	674	0	18.117	
Malta	903	0	161	0	1.064	
Netherlands	507.103	0	13.010	0	520.113	
Hungary	57.954	0	6.988	10.339	75.281 361.676	
Poland	337.670		7.121	16.886		
Portugal	9.555 102.401	0	1.096 18.978	1.491 112.110	12.142 233.489	
Romania Slovakia	45.120	0	111	0	45.231	
Slovenia	13.963	0	4.102	271	18.335	
Sweden	321.189	0	2.519	8.107	331.815	
Czech Republic	251.146	0	5.160	6.720	263.026	
Finland	112.199	0	189	0.720	112.387	
Albania	26.550	0	2.594	355.793	384.937	
Switzerland	261.859	0	29.683	3.004	294.546	
Norway	236.041	0	74	0	236.114	
Iceland	888	0	0	232	1.120	
Russia	1.181.331	0	6.664	24.653	1.212.649	
Serbia	22.113	0	2.968	720.392	745.472	
Other European countries	211.719	0	6.804	1.579.461	1.797.985	
II. ASIA	320.996	0	52.612	608.447	982.054	
Japan	8.046	0	1.324	0	9.370	
Iran	536	0	1.826	0	2.361	
Israel	187.606	0	0	0	187.606	
China	17.488	0	466	0	17.953	
Lebanon-Syria	26.159	0	175	0	26.334	
S.Korea	5.175	0	0	0	5.175	
Turkey	26.989	0	45.962	602.851	675.802	
Other Middle East countries	22.139	0	297	0	22.436	
Other Asian countries	26.856	0	2.563	5.596	35.016	
III. AFRICA	25.785	0	819	0	26.604	
Egypt-Sudan	3.915	0	0	0	3.915	
South Africa	14.519	0	0	0	14.519	
Other African countries	7.352	0	819	0	8.171	
IV. AMERICA	608.858	0	13.198	2.280	624.335	
Argentina	21.015	0	911	0	21.926	
Brazil	21.022	0	2.243	0	23.264	
Mexico	13.979	0	1.607	0	15.585	
United States	371.525	0	3.989	633	376.147	
Canada	159.794	0	2.010	1.647	163.451	
Other American countries	21.524	0	2.437	0	23.961	
V. OCEANIA	108.160	0	6.902	2.323	117.385	
Australia	97.133	0	5.711	2.323	105.167	
Other Oceanian countries	11.028	0	1.191	0	12.219	
TOTAL ARRIVALS	10.724.241	0	685.437	4.124.230	15.533.907	

Source: Frondier Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Note: Wherever necessary, the data have been rounded to the next final digit. Thus, a slight difference may be noted between the sum of the figures and their total.

⁽¹⁾ There was not any sampling for this transportation means, since Greece is not connected via railway with any country abroad.

⁽²⁾ From the 1st of July 2013 onwards, after the accession of Croatia to the EU, the data for this country are presented together with the other EU Member States. The corresponding data for the first semester 2013, as well as for the previous years are included under "Other European countries".

Table 3: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by means of transport and entry station: January-September 2013

Station of entrance		Jan - Septe	mber 2013	% change	% share	
	on or entrance	2012	2013	2013/2012	2012	2013
I. AIR		9.657.029	10.724.239	11,1%	71,6%	69,0%
1	Athens	2.147.756	2.114.694	-1,5%	15,9%	13,6%
2	Zakynthos	370.729	424.309	14,5%	2,7%	2,7%
3	Iraklio	1.855.787	2.157.364	16,3%	13,8%	13,9%
4	Thessaloniki	761.323	764.866	0,5%	5,6%	4,9%
5	Kerkyra	756.301	835.982	10,5%	5,6%	5,4%
6	Kos	721.964	816.772	13,1%	5,4%	5,3%
7	Rodos	1.437.968	1.587.863	10,4%	10,7%	10,2%
8	Santorini	178.922	217.284	21,4%	1,3%	1,4%
9	Chiania	603.611	715.276	18,5%	4,5%	4,6%
10	Other stations	822.667	1.089.830	32,5%	6,1%	7,0%
II. RAILWAY (1)		0	0		0,0%	0,0%
1	Promachon (Serres)	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
2	Railway stations (non-sampled)	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
III. SEA		666.267	685.438	2,9%	4,9%	4,4%
1	Igoumenitsa	303.740	315.575	3,9%	2,3%	2,0%
2	Kerkyra ⁽²⁾	28.953	21.069	-27,2%	0,2%	0,1%
3	Patra	153.832	167.549	8,9%	1,1%	1,1%
4	Other stations ⁽²⁾	179.741	181.246	0,8%	1,3%	1,2%
IV. ROAD		3.159.693	4.124.230	30,5%	23,4%	26,5%
1	Evzoni (Kilkis)	1.371.928	1.764.980	28,6%	10,2%	11,4%
2	Kakavia (Ioannina)	216.284	224.873	4,0%	1,6%	1,4%
3	Kipi (Evros)	280.118	439.743	57,0%	2,1%	2,8%
4	Promachon (Serres)	298.367	448.026	50,2%	2,2%	2,9%
5	Road stations non-sample	992.996	1.246.608	25,5%	7,4%	8,0%
TOTAL STATIONS		13.482.989	15.533.907	15,2%	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Frondier Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Note: Wherever necessary, the data have been rounded to the next final digit. Thus, a slight difference may be noted between the sum of the figures and their total.

⁽¹⁾ There was not any sampling for this transportation means, since Greece is not connected via railway with any country abroad.

 $^{^{(2)}}$ The data for January-September 2012 have been revised on account of erroneous wording by mistake.

Explanatory Notes

Arrivals in Greece of nonresidents from abroad

The "Frondier Survey", which is carried out by the Bank of Greece, among others collects data on "non-resident arrivals in Greece". These data are used by the Hellenic Statistical Authotity under a "Memorandum of Cooperation", for the production of three tables for non-resident arrivals, by country of citizenship, means of transportation and entry station. The reasons for this cooperation are summarized below:

ELSTAT is responsible for collecting, processing and publishing data on arrivals of foreigners in Greece. Until Schengen Treaty was entered into force, a key source of information on arrivals was the data from the passport control, which was conducted by the responsible authorities of the Ministry of Public Order, at the entry stations of the country. The Schengen Treaty and the expansion of the European Union, abolished the passport control for the majority of the passengers entering Greece. For these reasons, the estimation of the arrivals of foreigners in Greece became a complicated procedure, combining data from many different sources (Civil Aviation Authority, Ministry of Public Order, other surveys of ELSTAT and Eurostat).

The latter causes problems on:

- The timely publication of the data, because of the time lags in the availability of the primary data
- The methodological link of these data
- The correlation of the data announced by ELSTAT for the "arrivals of foreigners in Greece" and the data announced by the BoG for the "travel expenses of non-residents in Greece".

For these reasons, after examining methodological and practical issues, it was decided the cooperation between the BoG and the ELSTAT, so that the estimation and data availability for non-resident arrivals in Greece would:

- be made from one body, so as to provide single, accurate and timely information to users
- come from the ongoing "Frontier Survey" by BoG, which is, methodologically and practically, the best method for accurate estimations of non-resident arrivals. Hence it will be the only source for these data that will be published by

In this way we avoid carrying out two different surveys, by two different bodies, on the same subject.

Legal framework

Since 2003, the Bank of Greece, for the needs of the balance of payments, is being conducting a monthly sample "Frondier Survey" to estimate the travel expenses of non-residents in Greece and the corresponding Greek expenditure abroad. This survey is the source of the data of non-resident arrivals in Greece.

Reporting period January - September 2013

Availability Results

Data are available from the third quarter of 2009. The data are published four months after the reference quarter.

Definitions

- Resident of Greece is:
- 1. Every person, regardless of nationality, residing or intends to reside for at least one year in Greece
- 2. Each entity that has its headquarters in Greece and foreign entities that are established and operating in Greece
- Non-resident, is any individual or entity that is not residing in Greece.

These concepts of residents and non-residents have merely a statistical content and adopt the definitions proposed by the United Nations (System of National Accounts - SNA 1993), Annex XIV, paragraph 14 B) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF - Handbook for the compilation of the balance of payments, 5th edition, 1993).

Methodology

Frontier Survey is a sample survey of incoming (non-residents) and outgoing (residents) travellers, with main objective to estimate the travel expenses of non-residents in Greece and that of residents abroad, on a monthly basis. The data are collected from interviews conducted at the end of the journey, that is during the departure of nonresidents from Greece and the return of residents from abroad. In addition to the interviews, it is recorded the number and the residence of travellers entering and leaving the borders.

The survey covers the movement of travellers, outgoing and incoming, at every type of border station (airports, ports, road and rail border points).

The methodology of the "Frontier Survey" is presented in detail in the Economic Bulletin of the Bank of Greece: Issue 27, July 2006, p. 71-119. "

Wherever necessary, the data have been rounded to the next final digit. Thus, a slight difference may be noted between the sum of the figures and their total.

More information about the non-resident arrivals in Greece can be found on the portal of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (www.statistics.gr), at the sections: Statistical Themes - Tourism.