

# PRESS RELEASE

# **SURVEY ON QUALITATIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF RESIDENT TOURISTS: 2021**

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the data of the Survey on the Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists for the reference year 2021. On the basis of these data, in 2021, the number of residents of any age who made at least one trip amounted to 4.3 million and the number of trips to 6.3 million, recording an increase of 13.0% and 10.1%, respectively, compared with 2020. The total number of nights spent amounted to 69.7 million and the relevant expenditure to 2,197.3 million euro, recording an increase of 4.7% and 20.6%, respectively, compared with 2020 (Table 1).

According to the results of the survey, the number of residents aged 15 and over who made at least one trip in 2021 amounted to 3.5 million and the number of trips to 5.2 million, recording an increase of 12.2% and 9.3%, respectively, compared with 2020. In 2021, the total number of nights spent by these residents amounted to 60.0 million and the relevant expenditure to 2,017.2 million euro, recording an increase of 5.5% and 20.1%, respectively, compared with 2020 (Table 1, Graph 1).

As regards the purpose of the aforementioned trips made by residents aged 15 and over, 96.9% of the trips were made for personal reasons and 3.1% were business trips (Graph 2).



Graph 1. Trips and total expenditure made by residents aged 15 and over, 2015 - 2021

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When comparing the 2021 data on trips made for personal purposes with the corresponding 2020 data, an increase of 11.9% is observed to the number of people who made at lest one trip, of 9.8% to the number of trips, of 5.3% to the number of nights spent and of 22.1% to 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 one trip for personal purposes, namely 13.1%, is recorded for the age group 25-44 years (Table 3). For this specific age group the number of personal trips increased by 11.0% (Table 6), the number of nights spent by 6.8% (Table 10) and the relevant expenditure by 24.9% (Table 14).

As regards the duration of personal trips, the most significant increase, in absolute values, is observed for the number of trips lasting for 4-7 nights, which increased by 28.0% in the number of trips and by 27.4% in the number of nights spent (Tables 7 and 11).

Most of the personal trips were made by a land means of transport (3.7 million trips) and by sea (0.9 million trips). When comparing the 2021 data with the corresponding 2020 data, the biggest increase, in absolute values, is observed in the number of trips made by land means of transport, by 6.6% (Table 7).

For 55.9% of personal trips the main type of accommodation used 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 76.5% of the total number of nights spent. Trips spent in accommodation establishments provided without charge by relatives and friends and other non-rented accommodation establishments increased by 14.0%, while the corresponding nights spent increased by 14.7% (Table 12, Graph 11).

The main type of accommodation for personal trips spent in rented accommodation establishments (44.1% of personal trips) was hotels and similar establishments, representing 59.7% of such trips. Trips for which the main type of accommodation used was hotels and similar accommodation establishments recorded an increase of 46.1% in the number of trips and of 48.4% in the number of nights spent in 2021 compared with 2020 (Table 12, Graph 11).

Table 1. Resident tourists, trips, nights spent and total expenditure by main purpose of trip, 2020 - 2021

In thousands, expenditure in thousand EUR

	Re	sidents <sup>(1</sup>	)	Trips			Nights spent			Expenditure		
	2020	2021	Change %	2020	2021	Μεταβολή %	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020
Total (all ages)	3,818	4,314	13.0	5,760	6,339	10.1	66,577	69,702	4.7	1,822,082	2,197,285	20.6
Total (aged 15 and over)	3,138	3,521	12.2	4,768	5,213	9.3	56,904	60,024	5.5	1,679,078	2,017,184	20.1
Professional purposes	105	105	0.1	164	159	-2.7	863	1,002	16.1	100,307	89,514	-10.8
Personal purposes	3,101	3,471	11.9	4,604	5,053	9.8	56,041	59,022	5.3	1,578,771	1,927,670	22.1
Leisure, recreation and holidays	2,535	2,926	15.4	3,585	4,002	11.6	46,705	50,346	7.8	1,289,907	1,611,608	24.9
Visiting friends and relatives	608	600	-1.4	789	818	3.7	7,229	6,703	-7.3	215,871	235,198	9.0
Other personal purposes	175	165	-5.7	230	233	1.2	2,108	1,973	-6.4	72,993	80,865	10.8

<sup>(1)</sup> 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. Share (%) of trips, nights spent and total expenditure made by residents aged 15 and over by main purpose of trip, 2021

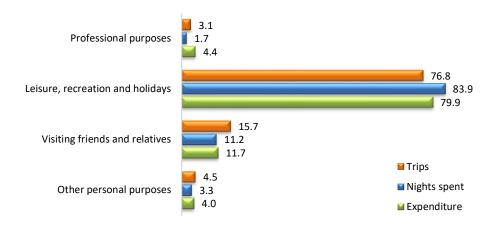


Table 2. Residents aged 15 and over that made personal trips, 2015 – 2021

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	3,381	3,249	3,593	3,916	3,748	3,101	3,471
Annual change %		-3.9	10.6	9.0	-4.3	-17.3	11.9
Of whom residents that made only domestic trips	2,878	2,747	3,074	3,250	3,046	2,862	3,163
Annual change %		-4.6	11.9	5.7	-6.3	-6.0	10.5

Graph 3. Residents aged 15 and over that made personal trips, 2015 - 2021

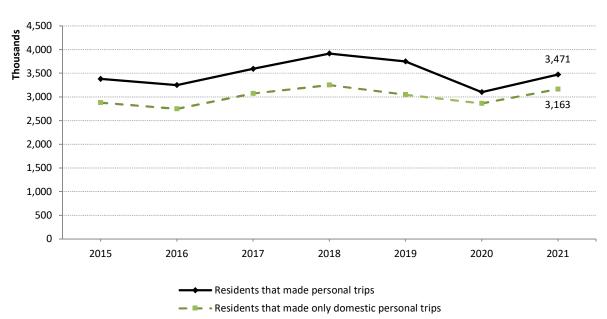
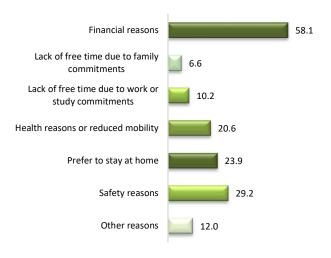


Table 3. Residents aged 15 and over that made personal trips by gender and age group, 2020 – 2021

	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020
Total	3,101	3.471	11,9
Gender			
Men	1,491	1.680	12,7
Women	1,610	1.791	11,2
Age groups			
15-24	443	519	17,0
25-44	1,069	1.209	13,1
45-64	1,132	1.268	12,1
65+	457	476	4,0

Graph 4. Reasons reported <sup>(2)</sup> for not making any personal trip (%), 2021



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

Table 4. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2015 - 2021

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	5,453	5,192	5,917	6,318	5,781	4,604	5,053
Annual change %		-4.8	14.0	6.8	-8.5	-20.4	9.8
Domestic	4,842	4,590	5,296	5,524	4,942	4,332	4,705
Annual change %		-5.2	15.4	4.3	-10.5	-12.3	8.6
Outbound	611	602	621	795	840	272	348
Annual change %		-1.5	3.2	28.0	5.7	-67.6	27.6

Graph 5. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2015 - 2021

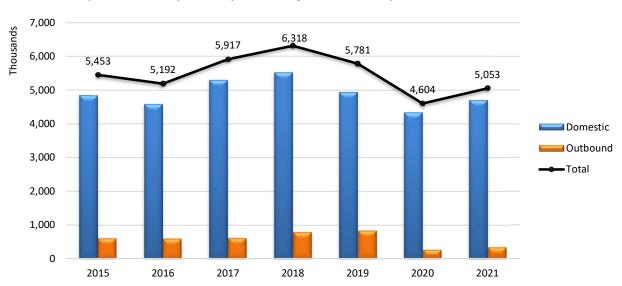


Table 5. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2021

					5 main des	tinations of out	bound trips	
	Total trips	Domestic trips	Outbound trips	Albania	Italy	Germany	Cyprus	Turkey
Trips	5,053	4,705	348	88	47	31	25	20
% of trips	100,0	93.1	6.9	1.7	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.4
		% of	outbound trips	25.4	13.6	8.8	7.3	5.8

Graph 6. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2021

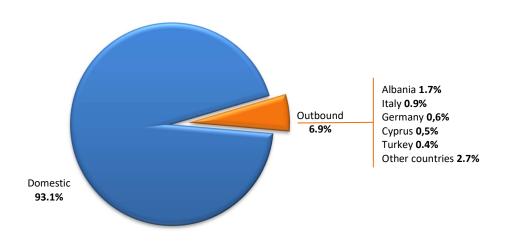


Table 6. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by gender and age group, 2020 – 2021

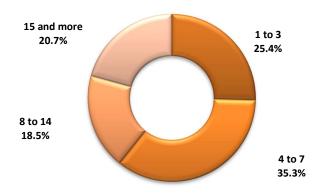
In thousands

	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020
Total	4,604	5,053	9.7
Gender			
Men	2,192	2,471	12.8
Women	2,413	2,582	7.0
Age groups			
15-24	617	714	15.7
25-44	1,577	1,750	11.0
45-64	1,746	1,890	8.3
65+	665	700	5.2

Table 7. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by duration and main mode of transport, 2020 – 2021

	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020
Total	4,604	5,053	9.7
Duration of trip in nights spent			
1 to 3	1,216	1,285	5.7
4 to 7	1,393	1,783	28.0
8 to 14	855	936	9.5
15 and over	1,140	1,048	-8.1
Main mode of transport			
Air	365	471	29.2
Sea	752	864	14.9
Land	3,488	3,718	6.6

Graph 7. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by duration (nights spent), 2021



Graph 8. Personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination and main mode of transport, 2021

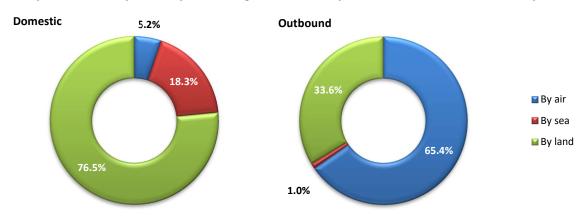
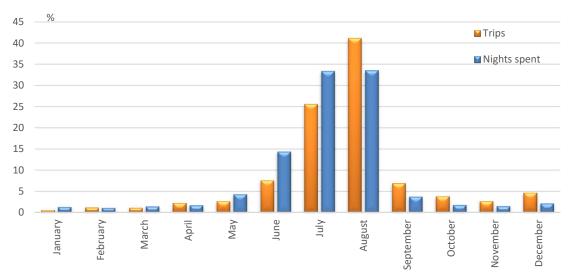


Table 8. Personal trips and nights spent by residents aged 15 and over by month of departure, 2021

	Trips	Nights spent	Trips %	Nights spent %
Total	5,053	59,022	100.0	100.0
January	27	748	0.5	1.3
February	58	626	1.1	1.1
March	55	823	1.1	1.4
April	113	1,009	2.2	1.7
May	135	2,539	2.7	4.3
June	383	8,467	7.6	14.3
July	1,292	19,667	25.6	33.3
August	2,078	19,774	41.1	33.5
September	349	2,198	6.9	3.7
October	193	1,035	3.8	1.8
November	136	879	2.7	1.5
December	236	1,255	4.7	2.1

Graph 9. Personal trips and nights spent by residents aged 15 and over by month of departure, 2021



 $Table \ 9. \ Nights \ spent \ of \ personal \ trips \ made \ by \ residents \ aged \ 15 \ and \ over \ by \ destination, \ 2015-2021$ 

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	54,976	53,047	59,368	66,565	61,289	56,041	59,022
Annual change %		-3.5	11.9	12.1	-7.9	-8.6	5.3
Domestic	48,660	46,438	53,578	59,630	53,651	52,729	55,262
Annual change %		-4.6	15.4	11.3	-10.0	-1.7	4.8
Outbound	6,316	6,609	5,791	6,935	7,638	3,312	3,760
Annual change %		4.6	-12.4	19.8	10.1	-56.6	13.5

Graph 10. Nights spent of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2015 – 2021

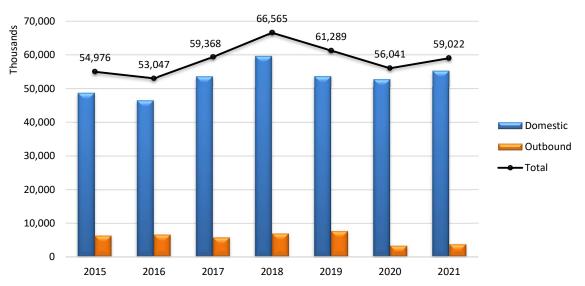


Table 10. Nights spent of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by gender and age group, 2020 – 2021

	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020
Total	56,041	59,022	5.3
Gender			
Men	26,094	28,248	8.3
Women	29,947	30,774	2.8
Age groups			
15-24	7,724	7,595	-1.7
25-44	13,374	14,280	6.8
45-64	19,393	19,850	2.4
65+	15,550	17,297	11.2

Table 11. Nights spent of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by duration and main mode of transport, 2020 – 2021

In thousands

	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020
Total	56,041	59,022	5.3
Duration of trip in nights spent			
1 to 3	2,765	2,956	6.9
4 to 7	7,615	9,699	27.4
8 to 14	8,854	9,649	9.0
15 and over	36,808	36,718	-0.2
Main mode of transport			
Air	4,010	5,247	30.8
Sea	11,489	10,861	-5.5
Land	40,542	42,914	5.8

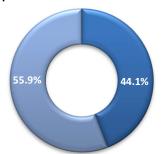
Table 12. Personal trips and nights spent of residents aged 15 and over by type of accommodation, 2020 – 2021

In thousands

		Trips			Nights spent	
	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020
Total	4,604	5,053	9.7	56,041	59,022	5.3
Rented accommodation	1,571	2,230	41.9	9,891	13,848	40.0
Hotels and similar establishments	911	1,330	46.1	4,967	7,373	48.4
Rooms for rent and rented houses, tourist campsites, other rented accommodation	661	899	36.1	4,923	6,476	31.5
Non-rented accommodation	3,033	2,823	-6.9	46,151	45,174	-2.1
Own holiday home	1,607	1,197	-25.5	31,898	28,826	-9.6
Accommodation provided without charge by relatives and friends, other non-rented accommodation	1,426	1,626	14.0	14,253	16,348	14.7

Graph 11. Personal trips and nights spent of residents aged 15 and over by type of accommodation, 2021

Trips



Nights spent

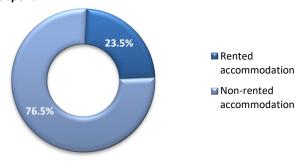


Table 13. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2015 – 2021

In thousand EUR

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	1,573,801	1,647,717	1,762,760	2,166,992	2,112,060	1,578,771	1,927,670
Annual change %		4.7	7.0	22.9	-2.5	-25.2	22.1
Domestic	1,264,126	1,286,736	1,398,365	1,714,552	1,598,637	1,408,618	1,719,607
Annual change %		1.8	8.7	22.6	-6.8	-11.9	22.1
Outbound	309,675	360,981	364,395	452,440	513,424	170,153	208,064
Annual change %		16.6	0.9	24.2	13.5	-66.9	22.3

Graph 12. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by destination, 2015 - 2021

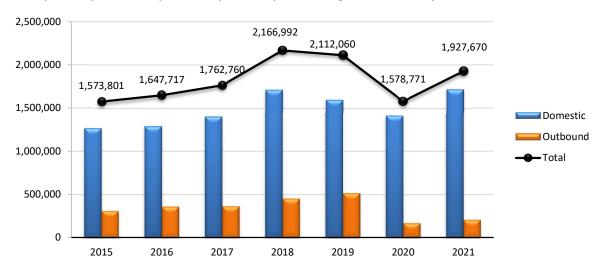


Table 14. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by gender and age group, 2020 – 2021

In thousand EUR

	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020	
Total	1,578,771	1,927,670	22.1	
Gender				
Men	754,344	916,787	21.5	
Women	824,427	1,010,883	22.6	
Age groups				
15-24	204,029	253,596	24.3	
25-44	503,445	628,715	24.9	
45-64	582,657	689,306	18.3	
65+	288,639	356,053	23.4	

Table 15. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by duration and main mode of transport, 2020 – 2021

In thousand EUR

	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020
Total	1,578,771	1,927,670	22.1
Duration of trip in nights spent			
1 to 3	191,366	246,771	29.0
4 to 7	465,589	656,207	40.9
8 to 14	321,679	394,454	22.6
15 and over	600,137	630,239	5.0
Main mode of transport			
Air	239,143	292,616	22.4
Sea	352,737	412,472	16.9
Land	986,891	1,222,582	23.9

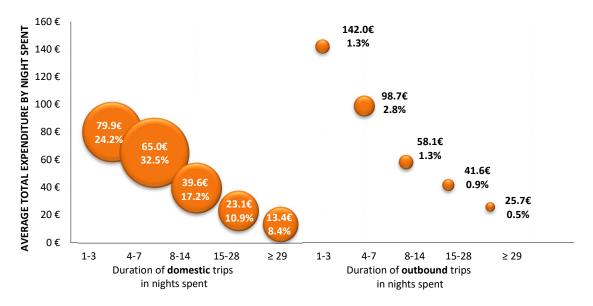
Table 16. Expenditure of personal trips made by residents aged 15 and over by type of expenditure and destination of the trip, 2020 – 2021

In thousand EUR

	2020	2021	Change % 2021/2020
Total	1,578,771	1,927,670	22.1
Accommodation	264,180	368,846	39.6
Food and drinks in cafés and restaurants	510,034	632,213	24.0
Transport	335,627	405,925	20.9
Other expenditure	468,930	520,686	11.0

The following graph depicts the share (%) of total personal trips by duration of the trip as well as the relevant average total expenditure (EUR) per night spent for domestic and outbound trips.

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, 2021



Note: The data have been rounded up, thus, a slight difference may occur between the sum of the figures and their total in the tables and graphs.

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

Characteristics of Resident Tourists

Survey on Qualitative 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.

Legal framework

Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Statistical units

For participation in tourism, the statistical unit is the individual. For tourism trips and visitors making the trips, the statistical unit is the trip made by the individual.

Methodology

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.

Reference area

The whole territory of Greece.

Reference period

Calendar year 2021.

### Statistical concepts and definitions

Resident: any natural person, irrespective of citizenship, normally residing or having the intention to reside for a period of at least 12 months in Greece.

Usual residence: 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.

Usual environment: the geographical area, though not necessarily a contiguous one, within which an individual conducts the regular life routines.

**Tourism trip**: 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.

Personal trip: 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.

Business trip: trip related to the visitor's work, beyond his/her daily routine and activities.

Main means of transport: 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.

Expenditure: 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.

Rented accommodation establishments: hotels and similar establishments, therapeutic centres, camping grounds, conference centres, passenger transport means, other rented accommodation establishments, such as mountain refuges, youth hostels, etc.

Non-rented accommodation establishments: own holiday homes, accommodation provided without charge by relatives and friends and other owner-occupied accommodation provided for free (caravans, tents, etc.).

The statistical concepts and definitions of the survey are described in Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Further information on the definitions and the methodology of the survey are available in the Methodological Manual for Tourism Statistics.

References

More information on the survey results is available is available on the website of ELSTAT at:

http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/STO15/-