



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

Increase of arrivals of non-residents from abroad by 0,6%,
in the period January - December 2010

NON-RESIDENT ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: Jan - Dec 2010

According to the Border Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period Jan-Dec 2010, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 0,6%, as compared with the same period of the year 2009.

More specifically, arrivals from Europe, which account for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (88,5%), registered a decrease of 2,4% in Jan-Dec 2010 as compared with the same period of 2009, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded a decrease of 6,3%. A significant decrease of arrivals was observed in the case of the U.K (14,7%), Germany (13,8%), France (9,8%), and Italy (9,8%). On the other hand, arrivals from Poland (97,6%), Russia (63,5%), Cyprus (32,2%) showed a significant increase. As regards the distribution of arrivals by country of origin of non-residents, the largest number of arrivals came from Germany (13,6%), the United Kingdom (12,0%), France (5,8%) and Italy (5,6%). Moreover the corresponding data for the rest of the continents shows a significant increase of arrivals from Asia for the period Jan-Dec 2010 as compared with the same period of 2009 (Table 1).

The analysis of the data by means of transportation and by point of entry shows that most arrivals are by air, and airports with the largest proportion of traffic are those of Athens (Eleftherios Venizelos) (20,6%), Iraklio (12,8%) and Rodos (9,4%) (Table 3).

Data for the period Jan-Dec of the years 2010 and 2009 are provided in the attached tables and charts as well as on ELSTAT's website (www.statistics.gr under the section Statistical Themes-Tourism).

Information:

Trade and Services Statistics Division

Tourism Department

N. Ioannou - A. Moutsatsou

Tel: 213 135 2168

Fax: 213 135 2947

e-mail: tourism.sector@statistics.gr

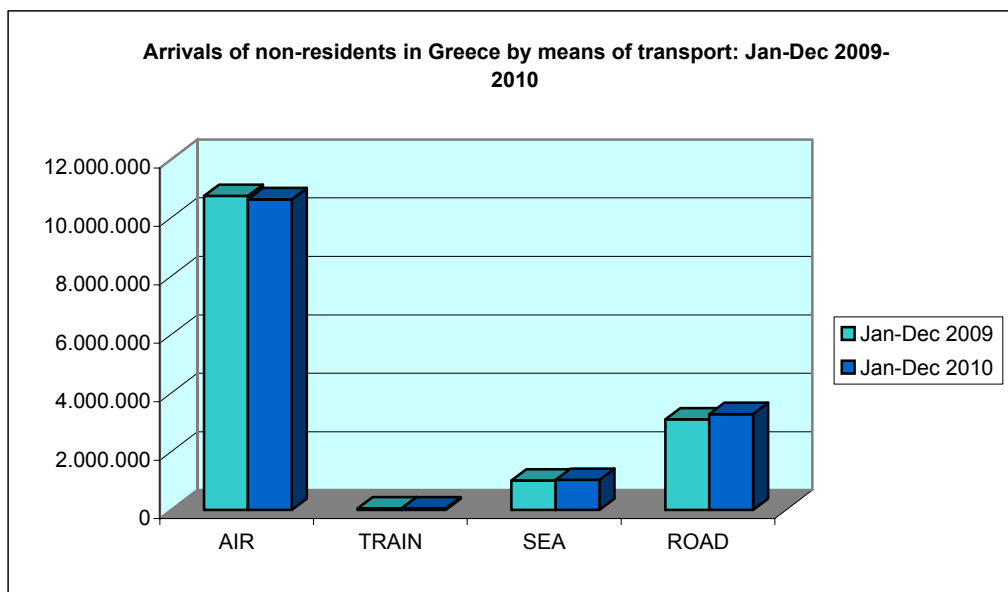
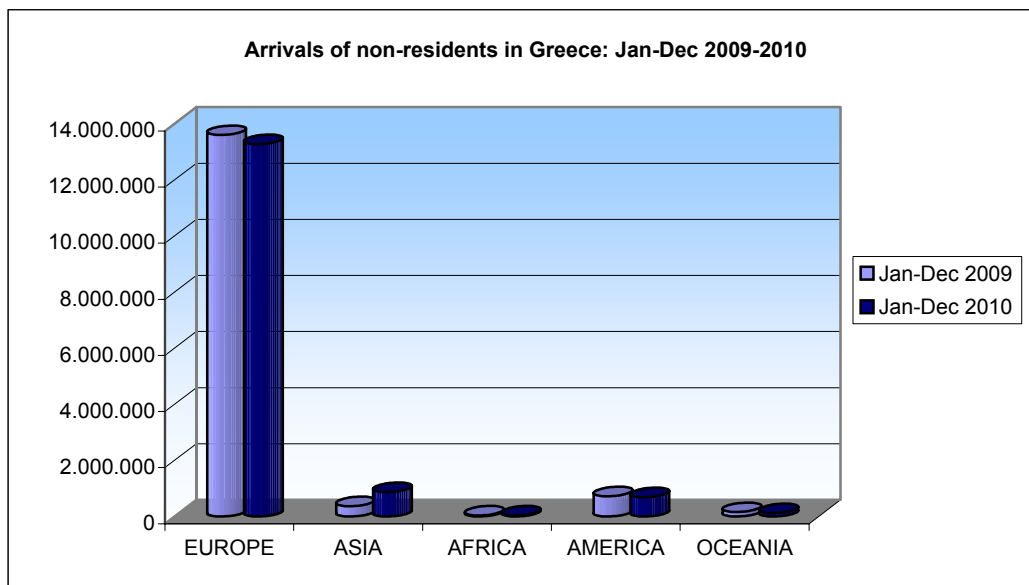


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: Jan - Dec 2009 and 2010

country of residence	Jan-Dec		% change	% share	
	2009	2010	2010/2009	2009	2010
I. EUROPE	13.601.417	13.275.962	-2,4	91,2%	88,5%
EUROPEAN UNION	10.887.535	10.199.904	-6,3	73,0%	68,0%
Austria	352.223	338.367	-3,9	2,4%	2,3%
Belgium	334.240	339.836	1,7	2,2%	2,3%
Bulgaria	657.130	664.389	1,1	4,4%	4,4%
France	962.435	868.346	-9,8	6,5%	5,8%
Germany	2.364.486	2.038.871	-13,8	15,9%	13,6%
Denmark	264.040	240.563	-8,9	1,8%	1,6%
Estonia	21.242	13.842	-34,8	0,1%	0,1%
United Kingdom	2.112.149	1.802.203	-14,7	14,2%	12,0%
Ireland	73.167	65.623	-10,3	0,5%	0,4%
Spain	164.461	155.302	-5,6	1,1%	1,0%
Italy	935.011	843.613	-9,8	6,3%	5,6%
Cyprus	434.746	574.764	32,2	2,9%	3,8%
Latvia	12.027	21.948	82,5	0,1%	0,1%
Lithuania	37.501	16.295	-56,5	0,3%	0,1%
Luxemburg	22.792	18.593	-18,4	0,2%	0,1%
Malta	4.367	9.651	121,0	0,0%	0,1%
Netherlands	651.440	528.157	-18,9	4,4%	3,5%
Hungary	70.894	109.160	54,0	0,5%	0,7%
Poland	203.487	402.170	97,6	1,4%	2,7%
Portugal	13.300	19.497	46,6	0,1%	0,1%
Romania	307.596	257.939	-16,1	2,1%	1,7%
Slovakia	48.549	49.406	1,8	0,3%	0,3%
Slovenia	45.924	40.082	-12,7	0,3%	0,3%
Sweden	356.154	281.069	-21,1	2,4%	1,9%
Czech Republic	267.833	294.936	10,1	1,8%	2,0%
Finland	170.341	205.282	20,5	1,1%	1,4%
Albania	234.276	242.083	3,3	1,6%	1,6%
Switzerland	352.514	274.418	-22,2	2,4%	1,8%
Norway	315.595	187.319	-40,6	2,1%	1,2%
Iceland	3.340	0	-100,0	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	276.021	451.239	63,5	1,9%	3,0%
Serbia-Montenegro	498.356	706.635	41,8	3,3%	4,7%
Other European countries	1.033.780	1.214.364	17,5	6,9%	8,1%
II. ASIA	372.369	869.737	133,6	2,5%	5,8%
Japan	6.765	10.021	48,1	0,0%	0,1%
Iran	1647	9189	457,9	0,0%	0,1%
Israel	82.443	197.159	139,1	0,6%	1,3%
China	7.793	13.620	74,8	0,1%	0,1%
Lebanon-Syria	14.753	4.639	-68,6	0,1%	0,0%
S.Korea	5.123	7.623	48,8	0,0%	0,1%
Turkey	200.348	561.198	180,1	1,3%	3,7%
Other Middle East countries	28.481	24.273	-14,8	0,2%	0,2%
Other Asian countries	25.016	42.015	68,0	0,2%	0,3%
III. AFRICA	38.186	44.239	15,9	0,3%	0,3%
Egypt-Sudan	12.610	15.925	26,3	0,1%	0,1%
South Africa	20.539	19.985	-2,7	0,1%	0,1%
Other African countries	5.037	8.329	65,3	0,0%	0,1%
IV. AMERICA	729.446	691.379	-5,2	4,9%	4,6%
Argentina	13.878	17.772	28,1	0,1%	0,1%
Brazil	24.540	34.015	38,6	0,2%	0,2%
Mexico	8.909	10.470	17,5	0,1%	0,1%
United States	531.276	498.301	-6,2	3,6%	3,3%
Canada	134.983	113.358	-16,0	0,9%	0,8%
Other American countries	15.860	17.463	10,1	0,1%	0,1%
V. OCEANIA	161.512	126.173	-21,9	1,1%	0,8%
Australia	133.869	108.088	-19,3	0,9%	0,7%
Other Oceanian countries	27.643	18.085	-34,6	0,2%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents countries	14.902.930	15.007.490	0,7	99,9%	100,0%
Non identifiable Travelers(1)	11.604	0	-100,0	0,1%	0,0%
ARRIVALS	14.914.534	15.007.490	0,6	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

(1) Through railway border stations.

Table 2: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence and means of transport: Jan - Dec 2010

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	9.500.339	42.044	969.450	2.764.129	13.275.962
EUROPEAN UNION	8.510.093	39.180	900.729	749.902	10.199.904
<i>Austria</i>	283.293	61	46.405	8.608	338.367
<i>Belgium</i>	329.671	0	9.133	1.032	339.836
<i>Bulgaria</i>	30.423	29.856	104.962	499.148	664.389
<i>France</i>	804.029	277	63.967	73	868.346
<i>Germany</i>	1.799.167	1.040	210.295	28.369	2.038.871
<i>Denmark</i>	233.769	0	1.793	5001	240.563
<i>Estonia</i>	13.105	23	143	571	13.842
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.770.268	0	30.016	1.919	1.802.203
<i>Ireland</i>	64.431	0	1.192	0	65.623
<i>Spain</i>	142.883	0	12.419	0	155.302
<i>Italy</i>	531.432	126	309.805	2.250	843.613
<i>Cyprus</i>	570.813	0	3951	0	574.764
<i>Latvia</i>	20.434	0	0	1514	21.948
<i>Lithuania</i>	15.778	0	517	0	16.295
<i>Luxemburg</i>	16.525	0	2068	0	18.593
<i>Malta</i>	9.651	0	0	0	9.651
<i>Netherlands</i>	499.862	0	28.295	0	528.157
<i>Hungary</i>	58.648	51	19039	31.422	109.160
<i>Poland</i>	365.868	336	16.772	19.194	402.170
<i>Portugal</i>	16.643	0	2.854	0	19.497
<i>Romania</i>	100.223	7.123	14.731	135.862	257.939
<i>Slovakia</i>	45.102	0	2568	1736	49.406
<i>Slovenia</i>	30.928	22	6.367	2.765	40.082
<i>Sweden</i>	276.098	0	4.971	0	281.069
<i>Czech Republic</i>	277.690	265	7.152	9.829	294.936
<i>Finland</i>	203.359	0	1.314	609	205.282
Albania	11.505	54	4.001	226.523	242.083
Switzerland	233.756	10	40.366	286	274.418
Norway	184.586	0	2733	0	187.319
Iceland	0	0	0	0	0
Russia	435.912	279	7.258	7790	451.239
Serbia-Montenegro	46.925	1816	1016	656.878	706.635
Other European countries	77.562	705	13.347	1.122.750	1.214.364
II. ASIA	304.606	12.061	37.211	515.859	869.737
Japan	8.077	0	1.944	0	10.021
Iran	3248	0	5941	0	9189
Israel	197.159	0	0	0	197.159
China	11.057	31	2.532	0	13.620
Lebanon-Syria	4.639	0	0	0	4.639
S.Korea	6.569	0	1054	0	7.623
Turkey	22.365	11727	24.338	502.768	561.198
Other Middle East countries	22.986	41	910	336	24.273
Other Asian countries	28.506	262,3	492	12.755	42.015
III. AFRICA	43.634	0	605	0	44.239
Egypt-Sudan	15.925	0	0	0	15.925
South Africa	19.985	0	0	0	19.985
Other African countries	7.724	0	605	0	8.329
IV. AMERICA	671.288	0	16.482	3.609	691.379
Argentina	17.288	0	484	0	17.772
Brazil	31.951	0	2.064	0	34.015
Mexico	10.172	0	298	0	10.470
United States	486.961	0	7.731	3609	498.301
Canada	107.615	0	5.743	0	113.358
Other American countries	17.301	0	162	0	17.463
V. OCEANIA	117.440	56	7.761	916	126.173
Australia	100.010	43	7.452	583	108.088
Other Oceanian countries	17.430	13	309	333	18.085
Non-identifiable countries travelers	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ARRIVALS	10.637.307	54.161	1.031.509	3.284.513	15.007.490

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Table 3: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by means of transport and entry station: January - December 2009-2010

Station of entrance		Jan - December		% change	% share	
		2009	2010	2010/2009	2009	2010
I. AIR		10.748.109	10.637.307	-1,0%	72,1%	70,9%
	1 Athens	3.170.478	3.092.195	-2,5%	21,3%	20,6%
	2 Zakynthos	435.169	420.960	-3,3%	2,9%	2,8%
	3 Iraklio	1.946.544	1.914.820	-1,6%	13,1%	12,8%
	4 Thessaloniki	862.054	758.772	-12,0%	5,8%	5,1%
	5 Kerkyra	733.137	722.699	-1,4%	4,9%	4,8%
	6 Kos	627.533	697.613	11,2%	4,2%	4,6%
	7 Rodos	1.321.806	1.416.991	7,2%	8,9%	9,4%
	8 Santorini	151.367	161.666	6,8%	1,0%	1,1%
	9 Chiania	608.361	587.825	-3,4%	4,1%	3,9%
	10 Other stations	891.660	863.766	-3,1%	6,0%	5,8%
II. RAILWAY		54.957	54.161	-1,4%	0,4%	0,4%
	1 Promachon (Serres) ⁽¹⁾	6.063	8.686	43,3%	0,0%	0,1%
	2 Railway stations (non-sampled)	48.894	45.475	-7,0%	0,3%	0,3%
III. SEA		1.007.843	1.031.509	2,3%	6,8%	6,9%
	1 Igoumenitsa	341.458	415.196	21,6%	2,3%	2,8%
	2 Kerkyra	74.961	68.635	-8,4%	0,5%	0,5%
	3 Patra	337.874	299.566	-11,3%	2,3%	2,0%
	4 Other stations	253.550	248.112	-2,1%	1,7%	1,7%
IV. ROAD		3.103.625	3.284.513	5,8%	20,8%	21,9%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	773.944	1.370.776	77,1%	5,2%	9,1%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	142.514	146.324	2,7%	1,0%	1,0%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	182.163	390.921	114,6%	1,2%	2,6%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	493.984	448.925	-9,1%	3,3%	3,0%
	5 Road stations non-sample	1.511.020	927.567	-38,6%	10,1%	6,2%
TOTAL STATIONS		14.914.534	15.007.490	0,6%	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

(1) Non-resident arrivals for this station are calculated using data only from the months that a sample is taken. For the months that there is no sampling, arrivals of non-residents are estimated and included in the data of non-sampled railway stations.

Explanatory Notes

Arrivals in Greece of non-residents from abroad

The "Border 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 Authority 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:

The EL.STAT is responsible for collecting, processing and publishing data on arrivals of foreigners in Greece. Until the year when the 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 the EL.STAT and Eurostat).

The collection of data for the arrivals of foreigners in Greece, from many different sources causes problems on:

- The timely publication of the data, because of the time lags in the availability of the primary data from the different sources
- The methodological link of the data that come from different sources
- The correlation of the data announced by the EL.STAT 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 EL.STAT, 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 already ongoing "Border Survey" of the 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 the EL.STAT

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

Legal framework

The Bank of Greece, since 2003, for the needs of the balance of payments, is conducting a monthly sample "Border 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 - December 2010

Availability Results

From the 3rd quarter 2009, data will be published quarterly, four months after the end of the reference period.

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

Border 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 non-residents from Greece. 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 "Border Survey" is presented in detail in the Economic Bulletin of the Bank of Greece: Issue 27, July 2006, p. 71-119. "

References

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.