

Methodological note:

Occupancy in collective accommodation establishments (hotels, similar establishments and camping)

❖ **General elements**

The survey is in effect for implementing the Directive 95/57/EC/23-11-95 of the European Union, on the collection of statistical information in the field of tourism.

It is a census survey, which is conducted on a monthly basis.

The population of the survey is all the collective accommodation establishments, which are active and registered at the register of the Hellenic Chamber of Hotels (that is, hotels, similar establishments and camping). The statistical unit is the establishment. Correspondingly, for each month, the population of the survey is all the establishments that are active during the specific month.

The size of the population is changeable -due to the new licences or to the pause of operation- and the register of the Tourism Section is updated every three months, through the information received by the Hellenic Chamber of Hotels with all the establishments that have an authorized licence at that time. As an indication, during 2006 the number of the establishments that had an authorized licence and were registered at the Hellenic Chamber of Hotels were about 9400.

The main information of this register that is used and presented is the capacity of the establishments (units, rooms, bed-places) by type and category of the establishment and by geographical area.

❖ **Collection of the data**

Each establishment fills in a given questionnaire, for each month that is in operation.

These questionnaires:

a) are filled in and submitted to the tourist police stations or police departments, at the places where the establishments lie, 5 days after the end of the reference month

or

b) are filled in on a given electronic form, available at the web-page of the N.S.S.G. (address: www.statistics.gr/zeus)

Up to October 2007, about 3100 establishments are inscribed in this electronic application, which represent the 55% of the bed-places of all the establishments in the register.

❖ **Variables of the survey**

The main variables of the survey are the arrivals and the nights spent by customers, at the collective accommodation establishments (hotels, similar establishments and camping), by country of residence of the customers. We take into account all the arrivals that involve at least one night spent at the establishment (not the day use) and the nights spent are calculated for each customer and not by room.

Additionally, the questionnaire includes the following information:

- ✓ Rooms in use, during the reference month
- ✓ Bed-places in use, during the reference month
- ✓ Total number of rooms that were occupied, during the reference month (for the calculation of the room occupancy)
- ✓ Days of operation during the reference month

The percentage use of the bed-places for each month is calculated taking into account the number of the bed-places in use and the total nights spent during the reference month:

$$\frac{\text{Total nights spent during the reference month}}{(\text{Total bed – places in use}) \times (\text{days of the reference month})} \times 100$$

Equivalent formulae are used for the calculation of the annual percentage use of bed-places and also by Prefecture and Municipality or by type of establishment.

❖ **Dissemination of the data**

All the above-mentioned data are processed and presented, concisely, in tables that are published at the web-page of the N.S.S.G. (www.statistics.gr) and in the publication releases, including data of arrivals, nights spent and percentage use of bed-places, by Region and Prefecture in Greece, by month, by country of residence of the customers and by type and category of establishment.

More analytical data are available through special electronic applications or by processing the raw data, when users submit specific requests to the Statistical Data Provision Section (e-mail address: data.dissem@statistics.gr).

Finally, this information for Greece and for all the other member states of the European Union, as defined in the Council Directive 95/57/EC/23-11-95, is available at the web-page of Eurostat, at the address:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.eu.int/portal/page?_pageid=1996,45323734&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&screen=welcomeref&open=/industry/touris/tour/sect_a/a_1&language=en&product=EU_industry_trade_services&root=EU_industry_trade_services&scrollto=384