

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS v2.0)

(user oriented)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists Survey, 2019

ELSTAT metadata
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1. Contact		Top
1.1 Contact organisation	HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY (ELSTAT)	
1.2 Contact organisation unit	Sectoral Statistics Division (B5) Tourism and Culture Statistics Section (B52)	
1.3 Contact name	Asimina KATRI Maria LAFTSIDOU	
1.4 Contact person function	Head of Tourism and Culture Statistics Section Employee of Tourism and Culture Statistics Section	
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1.6 Contact email address	tourism.sector@statistics.gr	
1.7 Contact phone number	+30 213 135 2168, +30 213 135 2625	

2. Metadata update		Top
2.1 Metadata last certified	April 2021	
2.2 Metadata last posted	April 2021	
2.3 Metadata last update	April 2021	
3. Statistical presentation		Top
3.1 Data description		
<p>The Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists Survey is an annual sampling survey on households pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council.. Data are collected on the number and the characteristics of resident tourists, e.g. age, sex, and on the number, the expenditure and the characteristics of trips, e.g. main purpose of the trip, main destination, duration of the trip, main means of transport, main means of accommodation etc. Furthermore, data regarding same-day visits are collected.</p>		
3.2 Classification system		
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3.3 Sector coverage		
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3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions		
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Usual environment: the geographical area, though not necessarily a contiguous one, within which an individual conducts the regular life routines.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Business trip: trip related to the visitor's work, beyond his/her daily routine and activities.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.).</p> <p>The statistical concepts and definitions of the survey are described in Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council.</p> <p>Further information on the definitions and the methodology of the survey are available in the Methodological Manual for Tourism Statistics.</p>		
3.5 Statistical unit		
<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>		

3.6 Statistical population	
<p>For participation in tourism, the statistical population consists of all residents in Greece, aged 15 or over, residing in private establishments during the reference period. Persons residing in collective living quarters (hospitals, prisons, asylums, orphanages, etc) are not covered by the survey (they correspond to 2% of the total population and the vast majority belongs to the economically inactive population).</p> <p>For tourism trips, the statistical population is consisted of all tourism trips with at least one overnight stay made by the residents of Greece, aged 15 years or over, which ended during the reference period.</p> <p>For same-day visits, the statistical population is consisted of all same-day visits made by the residents of Greece, aged 15 years or over, during the reference period.</p>	
3.7 Reference area	
The whole territory of Greece.	
3.8 Time coverage	
<p>Data according to the Regulation (EU) 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council are available from 2012 onwards.</p> <p>Data according to Council Directive 95/57/EC on tourism statistics are available from 1999 to 2011.</p>	
3.9 Base period	
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4. Unit of measure	Top
Data for expenditure on tourism trips and same-day visits are expressed in euro.	
5. Reference period	Top
Calendar year, 2019.	
6. Institutional mandate	Top
6.1 Legal acts and other agreements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is detailed on the website of ELSTAT. Regulation (EU) 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council 	
6.2 Data sharing	
Microdata are transmitted to Eurostat. Data tables are transmitted to the OECD and the World Tourism Organization of the United Nations.	
7. Confidentiality	Top
7.1 Confidentiality - policy	
<p>The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are arranged by articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Law 3832/2010 as in force, by Articles 8, 10 and 11(2) of the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System and by Articles 10 and 15 of the Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT.</p> <p>More precisely:</p> <p>ELSTAT disseminates the statistics in compliance with the statistical principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice and in particular with the principle of statistical confidentiality. http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-confidentiality?inheritRedirect=true</p> <p>Protection of personal data</p> <p>ELSTAT abides by the commitments and obligations arising from the applicable EU and national legislation on the protection of the individual from the processing of personal data and the relevant decisions, guidelines and regulatory acts of the Hellenic Data Protection Authority.</p> <p>Pursuant to the Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data [Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 (General</p>	

Data Protection Regulation - GDPR)], ELSTAT implements the appropriate technical and organisational measures for ensuring adequate level of security against risks for the personal data it collects and has access to, in the context of carrying out its tasks, in order to meet the requirements of this Regulation and to protect these personal data from any unauthorised access or illegal processing.

The personal data collected by ELSTAT are used exclusively for purposes related to the conduct of surveys and the production of relevant statistics. Only ELSTAT has access to the data. The controller is the person appointed by law pursuant to the relevant provisions concerning the Legal Entities of Public Law and the Independent Authorities. The data are stored in the databases of ELSTAT for as long as required by the relevant legislation.

Legal basis of the processing: Article 6, para 1(c) and 1(d) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

- <https://www.statistics.gr/el/privacy-info>

7.2 Confidentiality - data treatment

- ELSTAT protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units that have provided them by the disclosure of individual information directly received for statistical purposes or indirectly supplied from administrative or other sources. ELSTAT takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by ELSTAT if and only if:
 - a) these data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS), in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or
 - b) the statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.
- The confidential data that are transmitted by ELSS agencies to ELSTAT are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task and appointed by an act of the President of ELSTAT.
- ELSTAT may grant researchers conducting statistical analyses for scientific purposes access to data that enable the indirect identification of the statistical units concerned. The access is granted provided the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a) an appropriate request together with a detailed research proposal in conformity with current scientific standards have been submitted;
 - b) the research proposal indicates in sufficient detail the set of data to be accessed, the methods of analyzing them, and the time needed for the research;
 - c) a contract specifying the conditions for access, the obligations of the researchers, the measures for respecting the confidentiality of statistical data and the sanctions in case of breach of these obligations has been signed by the individual researcher, by his/her institution, or by the organization commissioning the research, as the case may be, and by ELSTAT.
- Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the Statistical Confidentiality Committee (SCC) operating in ELSTAT. The responsibilities of this Committee are to make recommendations to the President of ELSTAT on:
 - the level of detail at which statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible;
 - the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users;
 - the granting to researchers access to confidential data for scientific purposes.

- The staff of ELSTAT, under any employment status, as well as the temporary survey workers who are employed for the collection of statistical data in statistical surveys conducted by ELSTAT, who acquire access by any means to confidential data, are bound by the principle of confidentiality and must use these data exclusively for the statistical purposes of ELSTAT. After the termination of their term of office, they are not allowed to use these data for any purpose.
- Violation of data confidentiality and/or statistical confidentiality by any civil servant or employee of ELSTAT constitutes the disciplinary offence of violation of duty and may be punished with the penalty of final dismissal.
- ELSTAT, by its decision, may impose a penalty amounting from ten thousand (10,000) up to two hundred thousand (200,000) euros to anyone who violates the confidentiality of data and/or statistical confidentiality. The penalty is always imposed after the hearing of the defense of the person liable for the breach, depending on the gravity and the repercussions of the violation. Any relapse constitutes an aggravating factor for the assessment of the administrative sanction.
- Pursuant to the Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data [Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 April 2016 (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR)], ELSTAT implements the appropriate technical and organisational measures for ensuring adequate level of security against risks for the personal data it collects and has access to, in the context of carrying out its tasks, in order to meet the requirements of this Regulation and to protect these personal data from any unauthorised access or illegal processing.

8. Release policy

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8.1 Release calendar

In September of each year ELSTAT publishes a release calendar which includes the exact dates for the publication of all Press Releases for the following year.

8.2 Release calendar access

The [release calendar](#) is available on the website of ELSTAT.

8.3 User access

The survey results are made available to all users simultaneously, by posting relevant tables on the [website of ELSTAT](#).

Equal access of users to data is governed by the European Statistics Code of Practice of Eurostat, by respecting scientific independence and in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equitably.

9. Frequency of dissemination

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The annual data are transmitted to Eurostat within 6 months after the end of the reference year and are published on the website of ELSTAT within 8 months after the end of the reference year.

10. Accessibility and clarity

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10.1 News release

A press released is published once a year. For the reference year 2019 the press release was posted on the [website of ELSTAT](#) on 30/07/2020 as it was scheduled.

10.2 Publications

Data tables are posted on the [website of ELSTAT](#).

Moreover, results of the survey are published in the regular publications of ELSTAT, namely [Living Conditions in Greece](#), [Greece in Figures](#), as well as in a special publication issued for the [Thessaloniki International Fair](#).

10.3 On-line database

On-line database is not available, but data tables are posted on the website of ELSTAT (see 10.2, 10.4, 10.5).

10.3.1 Data tables - consultations

The hits to the website of ELSTAT (data tables and metadata), as regards the Survey on Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists, amount to 14,010 for the calendar year 2019. It is not possible to make a distinction between users' consultations on data tables and users' consultations on metadata.

10.4 Micro-data access

Micro-data are made available to users under strict conditions and with respect to the relevant [policy of ELSTAT](#) after submitting a request to the:

Division of Statistical Information and Publications,

46, Peiraios and Eponiton Str.,

18510 Piraeus

Tel: +30 213 135 2022

e-mail: data.dissem@statistics.gr.

10.5 Other

More detailed data are made available upon request by the Dissemination Section of ELSTAT. Data requests should be addressed to:

Division of Statistical Information and Publications,

46, Peiraios and Eponiton Str.,

18510 Piraeus

Tel: +30 213 135 2022

e-mail: data.dissem@statistics.gr

Furthermore, relevant data are available on the [webpage of Eurostat](#).

10.5.1 Metadata – consultations

See 10.3.1

10.6 Documentation on methodology

A [Methodological note](#) is available on the website of ELSTAT.

10.6.1 Metadata completeness – rate

Metadata completeness as regards the applicable fields amounts to 100%.

10.7 Quality documentation

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS) v. 2, Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists Survey, 2019.

11. Quality management

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11.1 Quality assurance

The survey is compiled in compliance with Regulation (EU) 692/2011 and the European Statistics Code of Practice.

Additionally, the quality is ensured by the [quality policy](#) of ELSTAT.

11.2 Quality assessment

Checks, crosschecks and comparisons of data taking place at each stage of the production - where any identified errors are duly corrected - ensure that the produced statistics are of high quality.

12. Relevance

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12.1 User needs

The main users of the survey are:

- Eurostat, OECD, UNWTO
- The Ministry of Tourism (Greece)
- Agencies that carry out studies and researches, such as the Institute for Tourism Research and Forecasts, universities, etc.
- Government bodies

- Enterprises, individual users
- Media

12.2 User satisfaction

For every data request, users are asked to fill in a questionnaire on user satisfaction. The results of the [User Satisfaction Survey](#) are made available by the Section of Dissemination of Statistical Information.

12.3 Data completeness

The survey collects information on all the variables stipulated in the EU Regulation 692/2011 and it takes into consideration the guidelines of the methodological manual on tourism statistics.

13. Accuracy and reliability

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13.1 Overall accuracy

The concepts and definitions of variables, as well as the survey methodology, are in line with the European standards and Regulations. The estimation methods which are used ensure the production of accurate results. Furthermore, an ESTAT tool (EDIT- EBB) is used to check and validate data.

Overall accuracy of the survey data is good.

13.2 Sampling error

Variable	CV
Number of residents, aged 15 or over, having made at least 1 trip (for personal purpose) of at least 1 overnight stay	2.9%
Number of domestic trips during the reference year (personal & professional purpose)	3.4%
Number of outbound trips during the reference year (personal & professional purpose)	6.5%
Number of trips for private/personal purpose (domestic & outbound)	3.2%
Number of trips for professional/business purpose (domestic & outbound)	12.0%
Number of domestic trips spent at rented accommodation during the reference year	4.7%
Number of domestic trips spent at non-rented accommodation during the reference year	4.1%
Total expenditure of tourist during the reference year	3.7%
Expenditure of tourist on accommodation during the reference year	5.1%

13.3 Non-sampling error

a. Unit non – response

The non-response rate, after the replacements, amounts to 22.0%.

b. Item non – response

Not observed.

13.3.1 Coverage error

Not observed.

13.3.1.1 Over-coverage – rate

Not observed.

13.3.1.2 Common units – proportion

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13.3.2 Measurement error

In order to eliminate measurement errors, the following steps are taken:

- Detailed instructions, on how to fill in the survey questionnaire, are given to the survey interviewers.
- The staff of the Tourism and Culture Statistics Section is duly trained in order to properly check the completed questionnaires.
- Automated checks during data entry.

13.3.3 Processing error

Qualitative and quantitative checks are conducted on the data in order to detect and duly correct errors during data entry.

13.3.4 Model assumption error

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14. Timeliness and punctuality

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14.1 Timeliness

The annual data are transmitted to Eurostat within 6 months after the end of the reference year and they are published on the website of ELSTAT within 8 months after the end of the reference year.

14.2 Punctuality

The survey results for the reference year 2019 were published on the scheduled date.

15. Coherence and comparability

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15.1 Comparability - geographical

The available data are comparable with the corresponding data of the other EU Member States, since the survey is conducted in compliance with EU Regulation 692/2011.

15.1.1 Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient

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15.2 Comparability over time

The data are comparable over time because there have been no significant changes in the definitions and methodology, which are pursuant to EU Regulation 692/2011.

15.3 Coherence cross-domain

The survey data are not directly comparable with the corresponding data of the Household Budget Survey (HBS) and of the Accommodation Statistics, due to significant differences in the reference period and/ or the statistical population.

15.3.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

There is coherence between sub annual and annual statistical outputs.

15.3.2 Coherence – National Accounts

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15.4 Coherence - internal

The data have internal coherence; there have been no significant changes in the definitions and methodology, which are pursuant to EU Regulation 692/2011.

16. Cost and burden

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The survey is conducted by external statistical interviewers and the average time needed to fill in each questionnaire is approximately 20 minutes. The annual budget of the survey amounts to approximately 90,000 euros.

17. Data revision	Top
17.1 Revision policy	
The data are revised, when necessary, in accordance with the Circular on the Revision Policy of ELSTAT.	
17.2 Revision practice	
The data of 2019 have not been revised.	
18. Statistical processing	Top
18.1 Source data	
The Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists Survey is a sample survey that is conducted on a yearly basis, on a sample of approximately 9,000 households. For each household a questionnaire is filled in pertaining to all the trips made by each household member during the reference year. For the reference year 2019, data from 6,853 households have been collected (size of initial sample: 8,786 households).	
18.2 Frequency of data collection	
Data are collected on an annual basis.	
18.3 Data collection	
<p>The data are collected using a paper questionnaire (in Greek) that is filled in by survey interviewers during personal home interviews of the members of the surveyed households.</p> <p>The selection of the sample is done 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 are all the members of the surveyed households.</p> <p>More information on the survey methodology is available in the methodological note of the survey.</p>	
18.4 Data validation	
<p>Validation checks are conducted both by ELSTAT and Eurostat.</p> <p>Qualitative and quantitative checks, checks and cross-checks of primary data, as well as comparisons with the corresponding data of previous years are conducted on micro data and aggregated data.</p>	
18.5 Data compilation	
Data compilation phases: data entry, data validation, data processing, extrapolation to the population, tabulation of data, evaluation of the survey results.	
<u>18.5.1 Imputation – rate</u>	
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18.6 Adjustment	
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<u>18.6.1 Seasonal adjustment</u>	
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19. Comment	Top
Part of the data collection for the reference year 2019 was carried out by telephone interview of the surveyed households because of the face to face communication problems resulting from the evolution of the Covid-19 pandemic and in order to protect the health of the respondents and interviewers.	