



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

*Increase of arrivals of non-residents from abroad by 13,1%,
in the period January-March 2011*

NON-RESIDENT ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: Jan - Mar 2011

According to the Border Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period Jan-March of 2011, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 13,1%, as compared with the same period of the year 2010.

More specifically, arrivals from Europe, which account for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (81,7%), registered an increase of 8,6% in Jan-March 2011 as compared with the same period of 2010, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded an increase of 1,1%. Arrivals from Russia (79,8%), France (70,5%), Albania (53,9%), U.K (32,4%), showed a significant increase. On the other hand, a significant decrease of arrivals was observed in the cases of Italy (29,4%), Germany (19,5%), and Cyprus (15,9%). As regards to the distribution of arrivals by country of origin of non-residents, the largest number of arrivals came from Bulgaria (10,3%), Cyprus (8,5%), Germany (7,8%), the United Kingdom (7,1%). Moreover the corresponding data for the rest of the continents show a significant increase of arrivals from Asia for the period Jan-March 2011 as compared with the same period of 2010 (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 to be those of Athens (Eleftherios Venizelos) (40,0%), and Thessaloniki (6,6%) (Table 3).

Data for the period *Jan-March* of the years 2011 and 2010 are provided in the attached tables and charts and also on the EL.STAT portal (www.statistics.gr).

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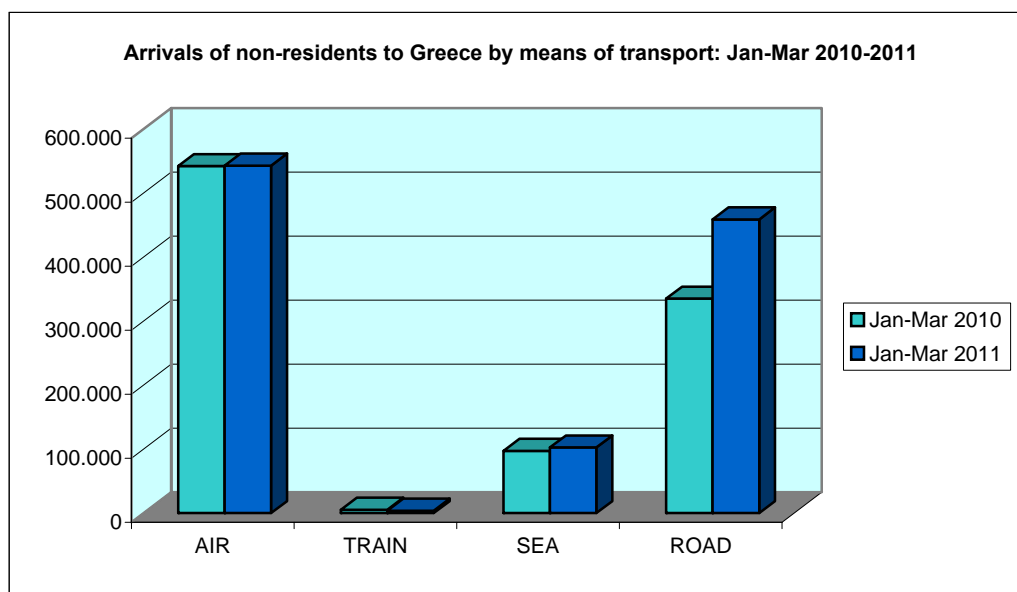
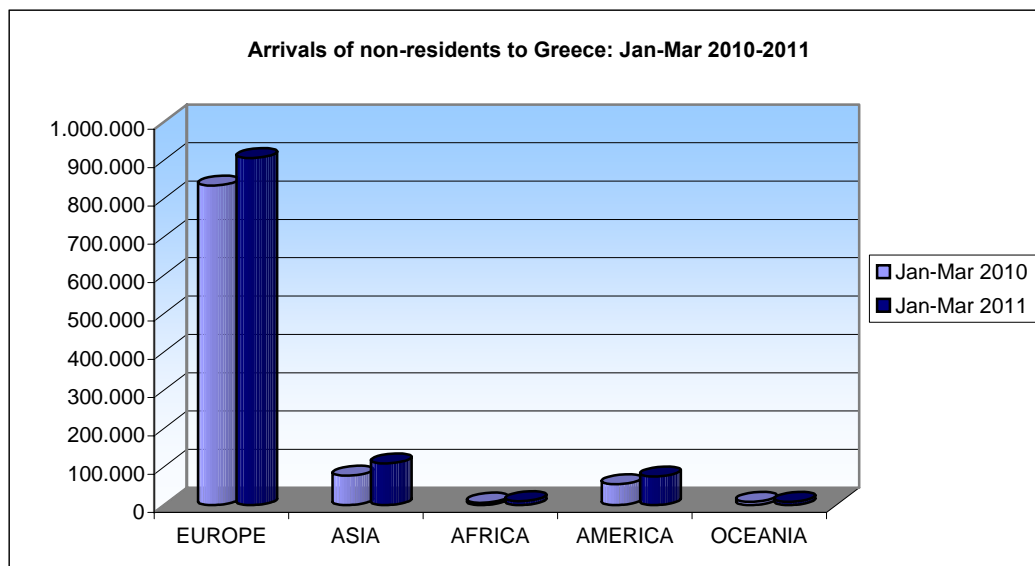


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-March 2010 and 2011

country of residence	Jan-Mar		% change	% share	
	2010	2011	2011/2010	2010	2011
I. EUROPE	833.805	905.887	8,6	85,0%	81,7%
EUROPEAN UNION	594.139	600.393	1,1	60,6%	54,2%
Austria	10.024	8.591	-14,3	1,0%	0,8%
Belgium	19.047	19.379	1,7	1,9%	1,7%
Bulgaria	89.830	113.992	26,9	9,2%	10,3%
France	28.478	48.548	70,5	2,9%	4,4%
Germany	107.761	86.704	-19,5	11,0%	7,8%
Denmark	4.482	6.780	51,3	0,5%	0,6%
Estonia	0	793	-	0,0%	0,1%
United Kingdom	59.339	78.566	32,4	6,1%	7,1%
Ireland	3.816	3.533	-7,4	0,4%	0,3%
Spain	12.448	13.036	4,7	1,3%	1,2%
Italy	60.439	42.649	-29,4	6,2%	3,8%
Cyprus	112.055	94.196	-15,9	11,4%	8,5%
Latvia	1.696	0	-100,0	0,2%	0,0%
Lithuania	144	0	-100,0	0,0%	0,0%
Luxemburg	541	209	-61,4	0,1%	0,0%
Malta	2.411	85	-96,5	0,2%	0,0%
Netherlands	19.374	13.930	-28,1	2,0%	1,3%
Hungary	6.179	2.590	-58,1	0,6%	0,2%
Poland	9.090	11.615	27,8	0,9%	1,0%
Portugal	1.635	1.640	0,3	0,2%	0,1%
Romania	30.249	37.308	23,3	3,1%	3,4%
Slovakia	794	1.093	37,7	0,1%	0,1%
Slovenia	2.241	1.322	-41,0	0,2%	0,1%
Sweden	7.589	6.702	-11,7	0,8%	0,6%
Czech Republic	2.730	4.876	78,6	0,3%	0,4%
Finland	1.747	2.256	29,1	0,2%	0,2%
Albania	66.403	102.225	53,9	6,8%	9,2%
Switzerland	6.476	15.019	131,9	0,7%	1,4%
Norway	5.120	3.252	-36,5	0,5%	0,3%
Iceland	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	6.919	12.440	79,8	0,7%	1,1%
Serbia-Montenegro	20.424	21.833	6,9	2,1%	2,0%
Other European countries	134.324	150.725	12,2	13,7%	13,6%
II. ASIA	76.898	108.974	41,7	7,8%	9,8%
Japan	4.227	3.400	-19,6	0,4%	0,3%
Iran	1018	1126	10,6	0,1%	0,1%
Israel	8.350	9.243	10,7	0,9%	0,8%
China	3.326	1.191	-64,2	0,3%	0,1%
Lebanon-Syria	1.715	2.043	19,1	0,2%	0,2%
S.Korea	3.423	367	-89,3	0,3%	0,0%
Turkey	42.752	84.559	97,8	4,4%	7,6%
Other Middle East countries	2.895	2.184	-24,6	0,3%	0,2%
Other Asian countries	9.192	4.861	-47,1	0,9%	0,4%
III. AFRICA	6.362	10.319	62,2	0,6%	0,9%
Egypt-Sudan	1.992	1.054	-47,1	0,2%	0,1%
South Africa	2.596	3.682	41,8	0,3%	0,3%
Other African countries	1.774	5.583	214,8	0,2%	0,5%
IV. AMERICA	54.720	74.472	36,1	5,6%	6,7%
Argentina	1.242	1.889	52,1	0,1%	0,2%
Brazil	1.089	5.329	389,3	0,1%	0,5%
Mexico	694	558	-19,6	0,1%	0,1%
United States	42.857	49.955	16,6	4,4%	4,5%
Canada	6.410	11.856	85,0	0,7%	1,1%
Other American countries	2.428	4.885	101,2	0,2%	0,4%
V. OCEANIA	8.626	8.735	1,3	0,9%	0,8%
Australia	8.280	8.100	-2,2	0,8%	0,7%
Other Oceanian countries	346	635	83,5	0,0%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents from abroad	980.411	1.108.387	13,1	100,0%	100,0%
Non-residents			-	0,0%	0,0%
ARRIVALS	980.411	1.108.387	13,1	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-Mar 2011

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	420.488	2.584	93.773	389.042	905.887
EUROPEAN UNION	387.062	2.513	85.035	125.783	600.393
<i>Austria</i>	5.058	22	416	3.095	8.591
<i>Belgium</i>	17.915	0	1.464	0	19.379
<i>Bulgaria</i>	6.461	2.003	12.737	92.791	113.992
<i>France</i>	37.419	0	11.129	0	48.548
<i>Germany</i>	69.774	33	15.415	1.482	86.704
<i>Denmark</i>	4.534	0	2.246	0	6.780
<i>Estonia</i>	793	0	0	0	793
<i>United Kingdom</i>	71.264	0	6.957	345	78.566
<i>Ireland</i>	3.246	0	287	0	3.533
<i>Spain</i>	12.333	0	703	0	13.036
<i>Italy</i>	17.837	0	24.812	0	42.649
<i>Cyprus</i>	94.196	0	0	0	94.196
<i>Latvia</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lithuania</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Luxemburg</i>	209	0	0	0	209
<i>Malta</i>	85	0	0	0	85
<i>Netherlands</i>	12.869	0	1.061	0	13.930
<i>Hungary</i>	1.735	0	855	0	2.590
<i>Poland</i>	5.622	43	3.619	2.331	11.615
<i>Portugal</i>	1.640	0	0	0	1.640
<i>Romania</i>	10.316	401	1.417	25.174	37.308
<i>Slovakia</i>	1.093	0	0	0	1.093
<i>Slovenia</i>	1.096	0	0	226	1.322
<i>Sweden</i>	5.827	0	875	0	6.702
<i>Czech Republic</i>	3.484	11	1.042	339	4.876
<i>Finland</i>	2.256	0	0	0	2.256
<i>Albania</i>	3.759	0	180	98.286	102.225
<i>Switzerland</i>	9.526	11	5.143	339	15.019
<i>Norway</i>	3.252	0	0	0	3.252
<i>Iceland</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Russia</i>	11.565	11	180	684	12.440
<i>Serbia-Montenegro</i>	977	7	1490	19.359	21.833
<i>Other European countries</i>	4.347	42	1.745	144.591	150.725
II. ASIA	33.030	1.181	4.829	69.934	108.974
<i>Japan</i>	3.400	0	0	0	3.400
<i>Iran</i>	1126	0	0	0	1126
<i>Israel</i>	9.243	0	0	0	9.243
<i>China</i>	1.191	0	0	0	1.191
<i>Lebanon-Syria</i>	2.043	0	0	0	2.043
<i>S.Korea</i>	367	0	0	0	367
<i>Turkey</i>	9.140	1181	4.649	69.589	84.559
<i>Other Middle East countries</i>	2.184	0	0	0	2.184
<i>Other Asian countries</i>	4.336	0	180	345	4.861
III. AFRICA	9.609	0	710	0	10.319
<i>Egypt-Sudan</i>	1.054	0	0	0	1.054
<i>South Africa</i>	3.682	0	0	0	3.682
<i>Other African countries</i>	4.873	0	710	0	5.583
IV. AMERICA	72.330	0	2.142	0	74.472
<i>Argentina</i>	1.889	0	0	0	1.889
<i>Brazil</i>	5.329	0	0	0	5.329
<i>Mexico</i>	558	0	0	0	558
<i>United States</i>	49.230	0	725	0	49.955
<i>Canada</i>	11.055	0	801	0	11.856
<i>Other American countries</i>	4.269	0	616	0	4.885
V. OCEANIA	7.598	0	1.137	0	8.735
<i>Australia</i>	6.963	0	1.137	0	8.100
<i>Other Oceanian countries</i>	635	0	0	0	635
Non-identifiable countries travelers	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ARRIVALS	543.055	3.765	102.591	458.976	1.108.387

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Table 3: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by means of transport and entry station: January-March 2010-2011

Station of entrance		Jan - Mar		% change	% share	
		2010	2011	2011/2010	2010	2011
I. AIR		542.444	543.055	0,1%	55,3%	49,0%
	1 Athens	454.847	443.021	-2,6%	46,4%	40,0%
	2 Zakynthos	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	3 Iraklio	3.687	3.882	5,3%	0,4%	0,4%
	4 Thessaloniki	78.734	72.877	-7,4%	8,0%	6,6%
	5 Kerkyra	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	6 Kos	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	7 Rodos	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	8 Santorini	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	9 Chiania	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	10 Other stations	5.176	23.275	349,7%	0,5%	2,1%
II. RAILWAY		5.307	3.765	-29,1%	0,5%	0,3%
	1 Promachon (Serres) ⁽¹⁾	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	2 Railway stations (non-sampled)	5.307	3.765	-29,1%	0,5%	0,3%
III. SEA		97.331	102.591	5,4%	9,9%	9,3%
	1 Igoumenitsa	16.008	19.838	23,9%	1,6%	1,8%
	2 Kerkyra	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	3 Patra	36.217	26.602	-26,5%	3,7%	2,4%
	4 Other stations	45.106	56.151	24,5%	4,6%	5,1%
IV. ROAD		335.329	458.976	36,9%	34,2%	41,4%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	95.057	95.852	0,8%	9,7%	8,6%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	40.817	58.109	42,4%	4,2%	5,2%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	23.891	41.850	75,2%	2,4%	3,8%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	54.558	71.768	31,5%	5,6%	6,5%
	5 Road stations non-sample	121.006	191.397	58,2%	12,3%	17,3%
TOTAL STATIONS		980.411	1.108.387	13,1%	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-March 2011

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 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 "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.