



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

Pireas, 23 April 2012

## PRESS RELEASE

### NON-RESIDENT ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: January - December 2011

According to the Border Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period Jan-December of 2011, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 9,5%, 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 (89,2%), registered an increase of 10,4% in Jan-December 2011 as compared with the same period of 2010, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded an increase of 4,9%. Arrivals from Portugal (77,7%), Albania (69,9%), Russia (63,8%), Luxemburg (53,1%), France (32,4%) and Belgium (27,3%), showed a significant increase. On the other hand, a significant decrease of arrivals was observed in the cases of Cyprus (23,5%). As regards to the distribution of arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals came from Germany (13,6%), the United Kingdom (10,7%) and France (7,0%) (Table 1).

The analysis of the data by means of transportation and by point of entry shows that most arrivals are by air, while airports with the largest proportion of traffic to be those of Athens (Eleftherios Venizelos) (19,0%), Iraklio (13,0%) and Rodos (10,5%) (Table 3).

Data for the period *Jan-December* of the years 2011 and 2010 are provided in the attached tables and charts. These can also be found on the EL.STAT portal ([www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)).

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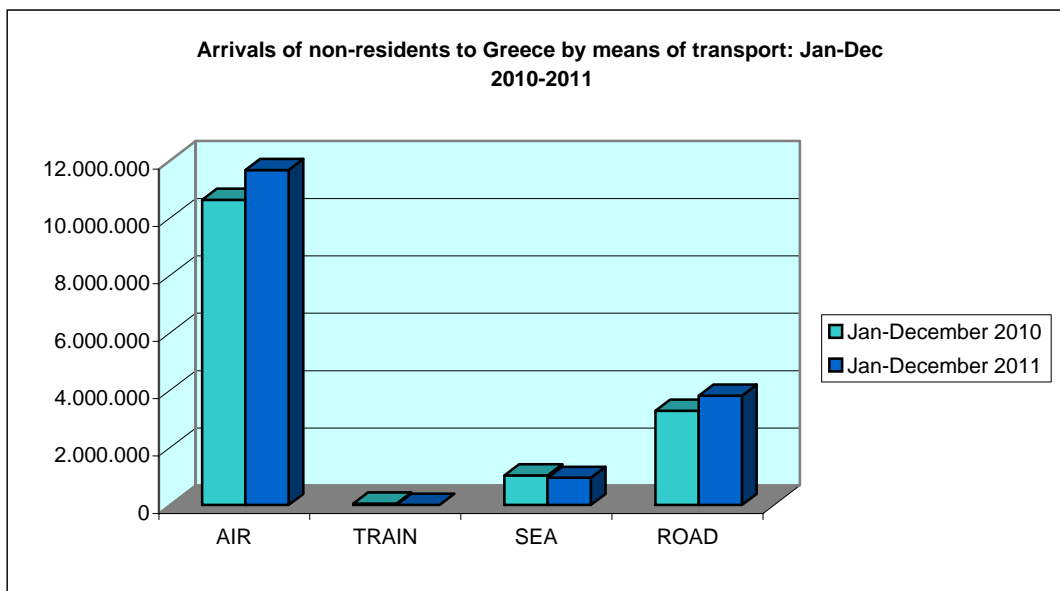
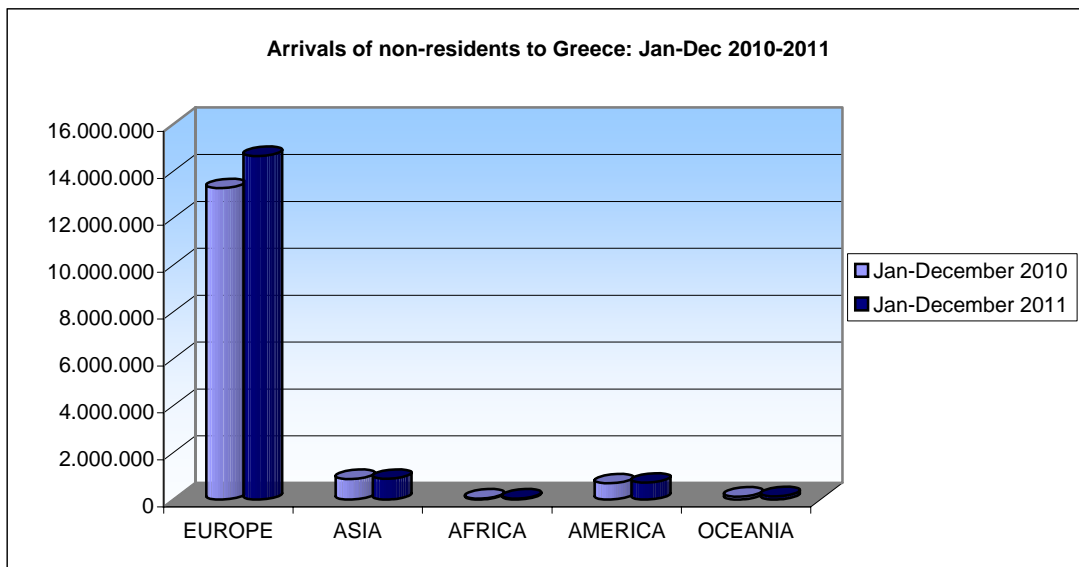


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January - December 2011

Analysis by country of residence	Jan-Dec.		% change	% share	
	2010	2011	2011/2010	2010	2011
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>13.275.962</b>	<b>14.651.513</b>	<b>10,4</b>	<b>88,5%</b>	<b>89,2%</b>
<b>EUROPEAN UNION</b>	<b>10.199.904</b>	<b>10.698.013</b>	<b>4,9</b>	<b>68,0%</b>	<b>65,1%</b>
Austria	338.367	310.358	-8,3	2,3%	1,9%
Belgium	339.836	432.625	27,3	2,3%	2,6%
Bulgaria	664.389	686.209	3,3	4,4%	4,2%
France	868.346	1.149.388	32,4	5,8%	7,0%
Germany	2.038.871	2.240.481	9,9	13,6%	13,6%
Denmark	240.563	244.986	1,8	1,6%	1,5%
Estonia	13.842	9.862	-28,8	0,1%	0,1%
United Kingdom	1.802.203	1.758.093	-2,4	12,0%	10,7%
Ireland	65.623	58.939	-10,2	0,4%	0,4%
Spain	155.302	154.774	-0,3	1,0%	0,9%
Italy	843.613	938.232	11,2	5,6%	5,7%
Cyprus	574.764	439.757	-23,5	3,8%	2,7%
Latvia	21.948	7.846	-64,2	0,1%	0,0%
Lithuania	16.295	13.666	-16,1	0,1%	0,1%
Luxemburg	18.593	28.475	53,1	0,1%	0,2%
Malta	9.651	1.368	-85,8	0,1%	0,0%
Netherlands	528.157	560.723	6,2	3,5%	3,4%
Hungary	109.160	69.756	-36,1	0,7%	0,4%
Poland	402.170	450.618	12,0	2,7%	2,7%
Portugal	19.497	34.642	77,7	0,1%	0,2%
Romania	257.939	223.699	-13,3	1,7%	1,4%
Slovakia	49.406	41.788	-15,4	0,3%	0,3%
Slovenia	40.082	31.130	-22,3	0,3%	0,2%
Sweden	281.069	333.906	18,8	1,9%	2,0%
Czech Republic	294.936	309.062	4,8	2,0%	1,9%
Finland	205.282	167.632	-18,3	1,4%	1,0%
Albania	242.083	411.245	69,9	1,6%	2,5%
Switzerland	274.418	361.405	31,7	1,8%	2,2%
Norway	187.319	226.627	21,0	1,2%	1,4%
Iceland	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	451.239	738.927	63,8	3,0%	4,5%
Serbia-Montenegro	706.635	692.059	-2,1	4,7%	4,2%
Other European countries	1.214.364	1.523.236	25,4	8,1%	9,3%
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>869.737</b>	<b>882.643</b>	<b>1,5</b>	<b>5,8%</b>	<b>5,4%</b>
Japan	10.021	10.125	1,0	0,1%	0,1%
Iran	9189	8.748	-4,8	0,1%	0,1%
Israel	197.159	226.110	14,7	1,3%	1,4%
China	13.620	15.838	16,3	0,1%	0,1%
Lebanon-Syria	4.639	4.916	6,0	0,0%	0,0%
S.Korea	7.623	1.846	-75,8	0,1%	0,0%
Turkey	561.198	552.090	-1,6	3,7%	3,4%
Other Middle East countries	24.273	18.399	-24,2	0,2%	0,1%
Other Asian countries	42.015	44.572	6,1	0,3%	0,3%
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>44.239</b>	<b>38.450</b>	<b>-13,1</b>	<b>0,3%</b>	<b>0,2%</b>
Egypt-Sudan	15.925	4.675	-70,6	0,1%	0,0%
South Africa	19.985	21.981	10,0	0,1%	0,1%
Other African countries	8.329	11.794	41,6	0,1%	0,1%
<b>AMERICA</b>	<b>691.379</b>	<b>719.661</b>	<b>4,1</b>	<b>4,6%</b>	<b>4,4%</b>
Argentina	17.772	13.834	-22,2	0,1%	0,1%
Brazil	34.015	52.118	53,2	0,2%	0,3%
Mexico	10.470	5.532	-47,2	0,1%	0,0%
United States	498.301	484.708	-2,7	3,3%	3,0%
Canada	113.358	142.287	25,5	0,8%	0,9%
Other American countries	17.463	21.182	21,3	0,1%	0,1%
<b>OCEANIA</b>	<b>126.173</b>	<b>134.979</b>	<b>7,0</b>	<b>0,8%</b>	<b>0,8%</b>
Australia	108.088	115.902	7,2	0,7%	0,7%
Other Oceanian countries	18.085	19.077	5,5	0,1%	0,1%
<b>Arrivals of non-residents</b>	<b>15.007.490</b>	<b>16.427.247</b>	<b>9,5</b>	<b>100,0%</b>	<b>100,0%</b>
Non identifiable countries travelers <sup>(1)</sup>	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
<b>TOTAL ARRIVALS</b>	<b>15.007.490</b>	<b>16.427.247</b>	<b>9,5</b>	<b>100,0%</b>	<b>100,0%</b>

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.-December 2011

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>10.464.249</b>	<b>2.584</b>	<b>874.678</b>	<b>3.310.002</b>	<b>14.651.513</b>
<b>EUROPEAN UNION</b>	<b>9.046.801</b>	<b>2.513</b>	<b>813.492</b>	<b>835.208</b>	<b>10.698.013</b>
Austria	261.077	22	39.130	10.129	310.358
Belgium	416.320	0	16.305	0	432.625
Bulgaria	31.869	2.003	79.825	572.512	686.209
France	1.080.893	0	67.653	842	1.149.388
Germany	1.987.387	33	185.313	67.748	2.240.481
Denmark	236.422	0	3.643	4921	244.986
Estonia	9.009	0	853	0	9.862
United Kingdom	1.723.298	0	32.970	1.825	1.758.093
Ireland	56.170	0	2.769	0	58.939
Spain	147.474	0	7.300	0	154.774
Italy	661.410	0	275.720	1.102	938.232
Cyprus	437.967	0	1.790	0	439.757
Latvia	6.676	0	911	259	7.846
Lithuania	13.166	0	396	104	13.666
Luxemburg	27.344	0	1.131	0	28.475
Malta	1.368	0	0	0	1.368
Netherlands	532.537	0	24.556	3.629	560.723
Hungary	46.209	0	6.412	17.135	69.756
Poland	419.177	43	14.037	17.361	450.618
Portugal	33.322	0	1.320	0	34.642
Romania	68.866	401	26.819	127.613	223.699
Slovakia	40.780	0	1.008	0	41.788
Slovenia	13.845	0	11.661	5.625	31.130
Sweden	331.105	0	1.910	891	333.906
Czech Republic	295.928	11	9.612	3.511	309.062
Finland	167.184	0	449	0	167.632
Albania	20.064	0	2.177	389.004	411.245
Switzerland	324.068	11	36.690	636	361.405
Norway	224.087	0	2.540	0	226.627
Iceland	0	0	0	0	0
Russia	714.530	11	3.553	20.833	738.927
Serbia-Montenegro	27.047	7	7947	657.058	692.059
Other European countries	107.651	42	8.280	1.407.262	1.523.236
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>344.346</b>	<b>1.181</b>	<b>45.320</b>	<b>491.796</b>	<b>882.643</b>
Japan	8.942	0	1.182	0	10.125
Iran	4.619	0	3.293	836	8747,916737
Israel	225.724	0	386	0	226.110
China	15.119	0	718	0	15.838
Lebanon-Syria	4.916	0	0	0	4.916
S.Korea	1.846	0	0	0	1.846
Turkey	32.083	1181	37.427	481.400	552.090
Other Middle East countries	17.437	0	962	0	18.399
Other Asian countries	33.659	0	1.353	9.560	44.572
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>36.857</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.593</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38.450</b>
Egypt-Sudan	4.675	0	0	0	4.675
South Africa	21.638	0	343	0	21.981
Other African countries	10.543	0	1.250	0	11.794
<b>AMERICA</b>	<b>701.518</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15.951</b>	<b>2.192</b>	<b>719.661</b>
Argentina	12.752	0	1.082	0	13.834
Brazil	52.118	0	0	0	52.118
Mexico	5.383	0	149	0	5.532
United States	474.137	0	8.378	2192	484.708
Canada	137.247	0	5.040	0	142.287
Other American countries	19.880	0	1.302	0	21.182
<b>OCEANIA</b>	<b>124.185</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10.305</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>134.979</b>
Australia	106.974	0	8.929	0	115.902
Other Oceanian countries	17.211	0	1.376	490	19.077
Non-identifiable countries travelers	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL ARRIVALS</b>	<b>11.671.155</b>	<b>3.765</b>	<b>947.848</b>	<b>3.804.479</b>	<b>16.427.247</b>

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 2011**

Station of entrance	Jan - December		% change	% share	
	2010	2011	2011/2010	2010	2011
<b>AIR</b>	<b>10.637.307</b>	<b>11.671.155</b>	<b>9,7%</b>	<b>70,9%</b>	<b>71,0%</b>
Athens	3.092.195	3.123.631	1,0%	20,6%	19,0%
Zakynthos	420.960	446.824	6,1%	2,8%	2,7%
Iraklio	1.914.820	2.137.230	11,6%	12,8%	13,0%
Thessaloniki	758.772	869.929	14,6%	5,1%	5,3%
Kerkyra	722.699	772.607	6,9%	4,8%	4,7%
Kos	697.613	843.171	20,9%	4,6%	5,1%
Rodos	1.416.991	1.717.477	21,2%	9,4%	10,5%
Santorini	161.666	178.681	10,5%	1,1%	1,1%
Chiania	587.825	652.058	10,9%	3,9%	4,0%
Other stations	863.766	929.548	7,6%	5,8%	5,7%
<b>RAILWAY</b>	<b>54.161</b>	<b>3.765</b>	<b>-93,0%</b>	<b>0,4%</b>	<b>0,0%</b>
Promachon (Serres) <sup>(1)</sup>	8.686	0	-100,0%	0,1%	0,0%
Railway stations (non-sampled)	45.475	3.765	-91,7%	0,3%	0,0%
<b>SEA</b>	<b>1.031.509</b>	<b>947.848</b>	<b>-8,1%</b>	<b>6,9%</b>	<b>5,8%</b>
Igoumenitsa	415.196	363.223	-12,5%	2,8%	2,2%
Kerkyra	68.635	93.223	35,8%	0,5%	0,6%
Patra	299.566	269.080	-10,2%	2,0%	1,6%
Other stations	248.112	222.322	-10,4%	1,7%	1,4%
<b>ROAD</b>	<b>3.284.513</b>	<b>3.804.479</b>	<b>15,8%</b>	<b>21,9%</b>	<b>23,2%</b>
Evzoni (Kilkis)	1.370.776	1.483.199	8,2%	9,1%	9,0%
Kakavia (Ioannina)	146.324	237.874	62,6%	1,0%	1,4%
Kipi (Evros)	390.921	328.323	-16,0%	2,6%	2,0%
Promachon (Serres)	448.925	475.435	5,9%	3,0%	2,9%
Road stations non-sample	927.567	1.279.648	38,0%	6,2%	7,8%
<b>TOTAL ARRIVALS</b>	<b>15.007.490</b>	<b>16.427.247</b>	<b>9,5%</b>	<b>100,0%</b>	<b>100,0%</b>

**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:

ELSTAT is responsible for collecting, processing and publishing data on arrivals of foreigners in Greece. Until 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 ELSTAT and Eurostat).

The latter causes problems on:

- The timely publication of the data, because of the time lags in the availability of the primary data
- The methodological link of these data
- The correlation of the data announced by ELSTAT 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 ELSTAT, 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 ongoing "Border Survey" by 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 ELSTAT

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

### Legal framework

Since 2003, the Bank of Greece, for the needs of the balance of payments, is being 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 2011

### Availability Results

Data are available from the third quarter of 2009. The data are published four months after the reference quarter.

### 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. " Wherever necessary, the data have been rounded to the next final digit. Thus, a slight difference may be noted between the sum of the figures and their total.

### References

More information about the non-resident arrivals in Greece can be found on the portal of the Hellenic Statistical Authority ([www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)), at the sections: Statistical Themes - Tourism.