



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

Pireas, 23 July 2012

PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENT ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: Jan - March 2012

According to the Border Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period Jan-March of 2012, arrivals of non-residents from abroad decreased by 11,7%, as compared with the same period of the year 2011.

More specifically, arrivals from Europe, which account for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (84,7%), registered a decrease of 8,5% in Jan-March 2012 as compared with the same period of 2011, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded a decrease of 12,8%. A significant decrease of arrivals was observed in the cases of France, Cyprus, Germany and United Kingdom. On the other hand arrivals from Albania and Bulgaria showed a significant increase. As regards the distribution of arrivals by country of origin of non-residents, the largest number of arrivals came from Bulgaria (13,1%), Albania (13,0%), Germany (8,1%), United Kingdom (7,5%) and Cyprus (6,9%). Moreover the corresponding data for the rest of the continents show a significant decrease of arrivals from America (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 (36,7%) and Thessaloniki (8,7%) (Table 3).

Data for the period *Jan-March* of the years 2012 and 2011 are provided in the attached tables and charts and also on the ELSTAT portal (www.statistics.gr)

Information:

Trade and Services Statistics Division

Tourism Department

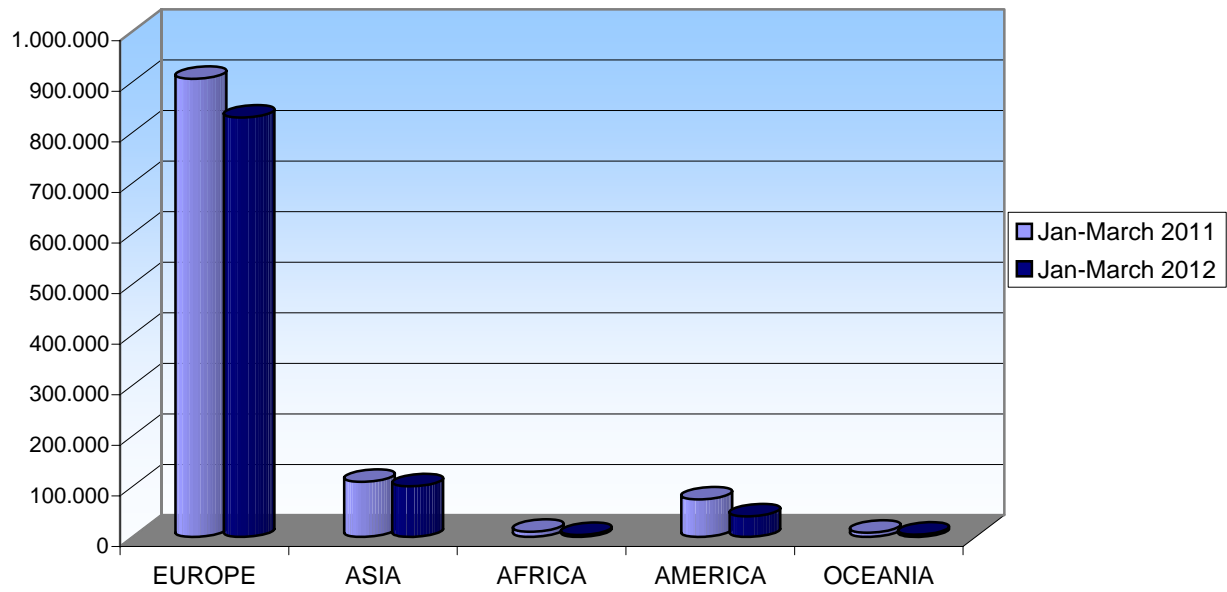
E. Skaveniti

Tel: 213 135 2956

Fax: 213 135 2947

e-mail: sklavene@statistics.gr

Arrivals of non-residents to Greece: Jan-March 2011-2012



Arrivals of non-residents to Greece by means of transport: Jan-March 2011-2012

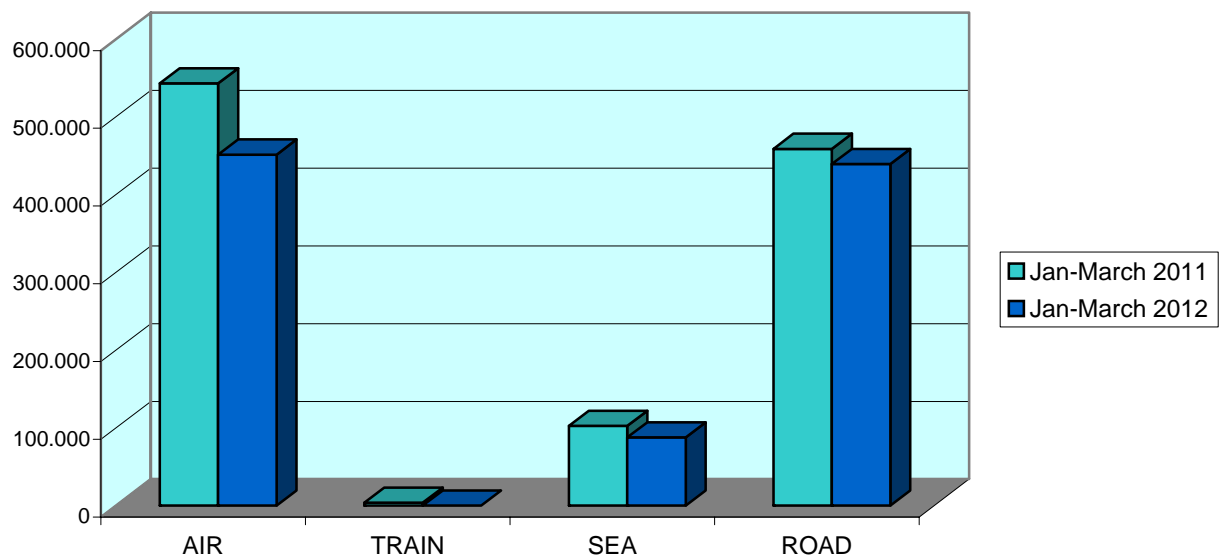


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-March 2012

Analysis by country of residence	Jan-March		% change 2012/2011	% share	
	2011	2012		2011	2012
I. EUROPE	905.887	829.154	-8,5	81,7%	84,7%
EUROPEAN UNION	600.393	523.415	-12,8	54,2%	53,5%
Austria	8.591	5.881	-31,5	0,8%	0,6%
Belgium	19.379	12.936	-33,2	1,7%	1,3%
Bulgaria	113.992	128.483	12,7	10,3%	13,1%
France	48.548	32.135	-33,8	4,4%	3,3%
Germany	86.704	79.705	-8,1	7,8%	8,1%
Denmark	6.780	2.753	-59,4	0,6%	0,3%
Estonia	793	312	-60,7	0,1%	0,0%
United Kingdom	78.566	72.989	-7,1	7,1%	7,5%
Ireland	3.533	2.439	-31,0	0,3%	0,2%
Spain	13.036	5.790	-55,6	1,2%	0,6%
Italy	42.649	41.293	-3,2	3,8%	4,2%
Cyprus	94.196	67.431	-28,4	8,5%	6,9%
Latvia	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
Lithuania	0	777	-	0,0%	0,1%
Luxemburg	209	1.428	583,4	0,0%	0,1%
Malta	85	1.405	1553,2	0,0%	0,1%
Netherlands	13.930	17.277	24,0	1,3%	1,8%
Hungary	2.590	3.702	42,9	0,2%	0,4%
Poland	11.615	7.669	-34,0	1,0%	0,8%
Portugal	1.640	266	-83,8	0,1%	0,0%
Romania	37.308	27.277	-26,9	3,4%	2,8%
Slovakia	1.093	1.947	78,1	0,1%	0,2%
Slovenia	1.322	633	-52,1	0,1%	0,1%
Sweden	6.702	5.815	-13,2	0,6%	0,6%
Czech Republic	4.876	1.086	-77,7	0,4%	0,1%
Finland	2.256	1.986	-12,0	0,2%	0,2%
Albania	102.225	127.521	24,7	9,2%	13,0%
Switzerland	15.019	12.493	-16,8	1,4%	1,3%
Norway	3.252	3.599	10,7	0,3%	0,4%
Iceland	0	298	-	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	12.440	7.547	-39,3	1,1%	0,8%
Serbia-Montenegro	21.833	19.666	-9,9	2,0%	2,0%
Other European countries	150.725	134.614	-10,7	13,6%	13,8%
II. ASIA	108.974	100.074	-8,2	9,8%	10,2%
Japan	3.400	1.424	-58,1	0,3%	0,1%
Iran	1126	451	-60,0	0,1%	0,0%
Israel	9.243	9.960	7,8	0,8%	1,0%
China	1.191	2.036	70,9	0,1%	0,2%
Lebanon-Syria	2.043	1.837	-10,1	0,2%	0,2%
S.Korea	367	2.093	470,3	0,0%	0,2%
Turkey	84.559	73.108	-13,5	7,6%	7,5%
Other Middle East countries	2.184	3.178	45,5	0,2%	0,3%
Other Asian countries	4.861	5.987	23,2	0,4%	0,6%
III. AFRICA	10.319	3.807	-63,1	0,9%	0,4%
Egypt-Sudan	1.054	976	-7,4	0,1%	0,1%
South Africa	3.682	1.153	-68,7	0,3%	0,1%
Other African countries	5.583	1.679	-69,9	0,5%	0,2%
IV. AMERICA	74.472	40.910	-45,1	6,7%	4,2%
Argentina	1.889	1.876	-0,7	0,2%	0,2%
Brazil	5.329	2.727	-48,8	0,5%	0,3%
Mexico	558	922	65,2	0,1%	0,1%
United States	49.955	29.496	-41,0	4,5%	3,0%
Canada	11.856	5.257	-55,7	1,1%	0,5%
Other American countries	4.885	632	-87,1	0,4%	0,1%
V. OCEANIA	8.735	4.614	-47,2	0,8%	0,5%
Australia	8.100	3.957	-51,2	0,7%	0,4%
Other Oceanian countries	635	657	3,5	0,1%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents	1.108.387	978.559	-11,7	100,0%	100,0%
Non identifiable countries Travelers ⁽¹⁾	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
TOTAL ARRIVALS	1.108.387	978.559	-11,7	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-March 2012

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	375.363	0	78.145	375.645	829.154
EUROPEAN UNION	334.439	0	71.955	117.021	523.415
Austria	4.558	0	1.323	0	5.881
Belgium	11.594	0	1.341	0	12.936
Bulgaria	10.641	0	20.306	97.536	128.483
France	28.293	0	3.612	229	32.135
Germany	68.155	0	11.181	369	79.705
Denmark	2.639	0	114	0	2.753
Estonia	312	0	0	0	312
United Kingdom	71.485	0	1.300	204	72.989
Ireland	2.128	0	311	0	2.439
Spain	5.172	0	619	0	5.790
Italy	21.791	0	19.502	0	41.293
Cyprus	67.219	0	212	0	67.431
Latvia	0	0	0	0	0
Lithuania	446	0	331	0	777
Luxemburg	1.428	0	0	0	1.428
Malta	1.074	0	331	0	1.405
Netherlands	15.840	0	1437	0	17.277
Hungary	1.494	0	2207	0	3.702
Poland	117	0	3691	3.861	7.669
Portugal	266	0	0	0	266
Romania	9.871	0	2953	14.454	27.277
Slovakia	1.284	0	663	0	1.947
Slovenia	520	0	114	0	633
Sweden	5.507	0	308	0	5.815
Czech Republic	618	0	101	367	1.086
Finland	1.986	0	0	0	1.986
Albania	5.931	0	959	120.631	127.521
Switzerland	10.182	0	2.310	0	12.493
Norway	3.599	0	0	0	3.599
Iceland	298	0	0	0	298
Russia	7.436	0	111	0	7.547
Serbia-Montenegro	9.102	0	341	10.223	19.666
Other European countries	4.375	0	2.470	127.770	134.614
II. ASIA	29.030	0	7.746	63.298	100.074
Japan	990	0	433	0	1.424
Iran	0	0	451	0	451
Israel	9.808	0	0	153	9.960
China	1.869	0	166	0	2.036
Lebanon-Syria	1.837	0	0	0	1.837
S.Korea	1.937	0	156	0	2.093
Turkey	5.912	0	6.374	60.823	73.108
Other Middle East countries	3.178	0	0	0	3.178
Other Asian countries	3.498	0	166	2.322	5.987
III. AFRICA	3.807	0	0	0	3.807
Egypt-Sudan	976	0	0	0	976
South Africa	1.153	0	0	0	1.153
Other African countries	1.679	0	0	0	1.679
IV. AMERICA	39.117	0	1.794	0	40.910
Argentina	1.473	0	402	0	1.876
Brazil	2.727	0	0	0	2.727
Mexico	922	0	0	0	922
United States	28.454	0	1.042	0	29.496
Canada	4.907	0	350	0	5.257
Other American countries	632	0	0	0	632
V. OCEANIA	4.268	0	0	346	4.614
Australia	3.957	0	0	0	3.957
Other Oceanian countries	312	0	0	346	657
Non-identifiable countries travelers	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ARRIVALS	451.585	0	87.685	439.289	978.559

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 2012

Station of entrance		Jan - March		% change 2012/2011	% share	
		2011	2012		2011	2012
I. AIR		543.055	451.585	-16,8%	49,0%	46,1%
	1 Athens	443.021	358.952	-19,0%	40,0%	36,7%
	2 Zakynthos	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	3 Iraklio ⁽¹⁾	3.882	0	-100,0%	0,4%	0,0%
	4 Thessaloniki	72.877	85.154	16,8%	6,6%	8,7%
	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	23.275	7.478	-67,9%	2,1%	0,8%
II. RAILWAY		3.765	0	-100,0%	0,3%	0,0%
	1 Promachon (Serres) ⁽¹⁾	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	2 Railway stations (non-sampled)	3.765	0	-100,0%	0,3%	0,0%
III. SEA		102.591	87.685	-14,5%	9,3%	9,0%
	1 Igoumenitsa	19.838	42.617	114,8%	1,8%	4,4%
	2 Kerkyra ⁽¹⁾	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	3 Patra	26.602	22.117	-16,9%	2,4%	2,3%
	4 Other stations	56.151	22.951	-59,1%	5,1%	2,3%
IV. ROAD		458.976	439.289	-4,3%	41,4%	44,9%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	95.852	76.374	-20,3%	8,6%	7,8%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	58.109	68.150	17,3%	5,2%	7,0%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	41.850	35.947	-14,1%	3,8%	3,7%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	71.768	68.679	-4,3%	6,5%	7,0%
	5 Road stations non-sample	191.397	190.139	-0,7%	17,3%	19,4%
TOTAL STATIONS		1.108.387	978.559	-11,7%	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

(1) For the particular period of time there was no sampling for these 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 ELSTAT 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 ELSTAT 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 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 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 ELSTAT

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 2012

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. "

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), at the sections: Statistical Themes - Tourism.