



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENT ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: Jan - June 2012

According to the Border Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period Jan-June of 2012, arrivals of non-residents from abroad decreased by 9,0%, 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 (87,8%), registered a decrease of 7,9% in Jan-June 2012 as compared with the same period of 2011, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded a decrease of 11,6%. Arrivals from France, Bulgaria, Netherlands, Poland and Germany showed a significant decrease in absolute values. On the other hand, a significant increase of arrivals was observed in the cases of United Kingdom, Albania and Spain. As regards to the distribution of arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals came from Germany (12,8%), the United Kingdom (12,7%) and France (6,3%). Moreover, the corresponding data for the rest of the continents show a significant decrease of arrivals, in absolute values, from America for the period Jan-June 2012 as compared with the same period of 2011 (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 (21,8%), Iraklio (11,6%) and Rodos (9,2%) and Thessaloniki (6,5%) (Table 3).

Data for the period *Jan-June* of the years 2012 and 2011 are provided in the attached tables and charts. These can also be found on the EL.STAT portal (www.statistics.gr).

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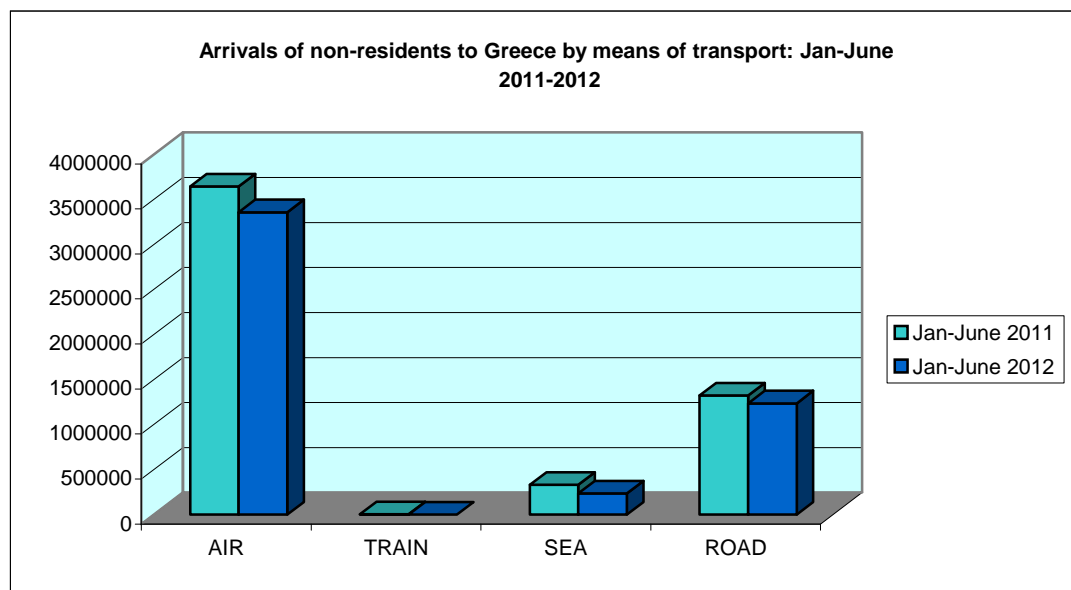
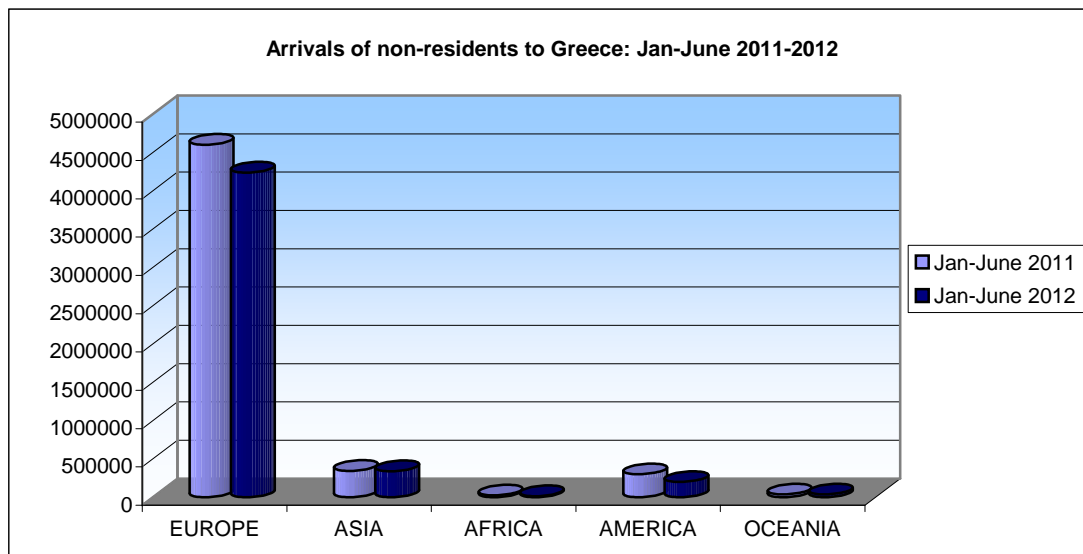


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-June 2012

Analysis by country of residence	Jan-June		% change 2012/2011	% share	
	2011	2012		2011	2012
I. EUROPE	4.601.169	4.237.910	-7,9	86,7%	87,8%
EUROPEAN UNION	3.400.448	3.006.945	-11,6	64,1%	62,3%
Austria	82.611	69.365	-16,0	1,6%	1,4%
Belgium	136.963	97.224	-29,0	2,6%	2,0%
Bulgaria	359.539	264.206	-26,5	6,8%	5,5%
France	424.424	304.968	-28,1	8,0%	6,3%
Germany	661.954	616.585	-6,9	12,5%	12,8%
Denmark	62.904	58.909	-6,4	1,2%	1,2%
Estonia	5.066	312	-93,8	0,1%	0,0%
United Kingdom	528.129	612.494	16,0	10,0%	12,7%
Ireland	23.645	10.018	-57,6	0,4%	0,2%
Spain	40.727	68.292	67,7	0,8%	1,4%
Italy	201.082	163.888	-18,5	3,8%	3,4%
Cyprus	194.988	179.952	-7,7	3,7%	3,7%
Latvia	1.846	3.092	67,5	0,0%	0,1%
Lithuania	7.065	7.727	9,4	0,1%	0,2%
Luxemburg	8.727	4.159	-52,3	0,2%	0,1%
Malta	730	2.206	202,2	0,0%	0,0%
Netherlands	203.054	135.412	-33,3	3,8%	2,8%
Hungary	13.939	17.215	23,5	0,3%	0,4%
Poland	100.948	52.745	-47,7	1,9%	1,1%
Portugal	6.153	5.685	-7,6	0,1%	0,1%
Romania	97.158	89.387	-8,0	1,8%	1,9%
Slovakia	4.307	16.809	290,3	0,1%	0,3%
Slovenia	4.157	3.783	-9,0	0,1%	0,1%
Sweden	113.952	99.752	-12,5	2,1%	2,1%
Czech Republic	54.070	68.636	26,9	1,0%	1,4%
Finland	62.310	54.122	-13,1	1,2%	1,1%
Albania	209.584	237.717	13,4	4,0%	4,9%
Switzerland	95.830	81.577	-14,9	1,8%	1,7%
Norway	77.303	89.602	15,9	1,5%	1,9%
Iceland	0	906	-	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	212.696	229.370	7,8	4,0%	4,8%
Serbia-Montenegro	138.286	114.054	-17,5	2,6%	2,4%
Other European countries	467.022	477.739	2,3	8,8%	9,9%
II. ASIA	344.332	340.117	-1,2	6,5%	7,0%
Japan	5.939	4.070	-31,5	0,1%	0,1%
Iran	5472	3.194	-41,6	0,1%	0,1%
Israel	83.658	49.274	-41,1	1,6%	1,0%
China	5.602	6.764	20,7	0,1%	0,1%
Lebanon-Syria	2.835	3.197	12,8	0,1%	0,1%
S.Korea	970	2.580	166,0	0,0%	0,1%
Turkey	216.810	241.375	11,3	4,1%	5,0%
Other Middle East countries	6.591	7.909	20,0	0,1%	0,2%
Other Asian countries	16.455	21.755	32,2	0,3%	0,5%
III. AFRICA	23.092	14.560	-36,9	0,4%	0,3%
Egypt-Sudan	1.054	2.377	125,5	0,0%	0,0%
South Africa	13.545	7.397	-45,4	0,3%	0,2%
Other African countries	8.493	4.786	-43,6	0,2%	0,1%
IV. AMERICA	299.566	198.955	-33,6	5,6%	4,1%
Argentina	5.017	9.657	92,5	0,1%	0,2%
Brazil	19.020	12.479	-34,4	0,4%	0,3%
Mexico	1.611	5.135	218,8	0,0%	0,1%
United States	212.092	130.787	-38,3	4,0%	2,7%
Canada	52.256	33.421	-36,0	1,0%	0,7%
Other American countries	9.570	7.476	-21,9	0,2%	0,2%
V. OCEANIA	35.996	36.262	0,7	0,7%	0,8%
Australia	28.313	33.083	16,8	0,5%	0,7%
Other Oceanian countries	7.683	3.179	-58,6	0,1%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents Non identifiable countries Travelers⁽¹⁾	5.304.155	4.827.803	-9,0	100,0%	100,0%
			-	0,0%	0,0%
TOTAL ARRIVALS	5.304.155	4.827.803	-9,0	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: January-June 2012

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	3.007.277	0	205.907	1.024.727	4.237.910
EUROPEAN UNION	2.553.548	0	189.341	264.057	3.006.945
<i>Austria</i>	62.152	0	7.213	0	69.365
<i>Belgium</i>	94.731	0	2.494	0	97.224
<i>Bulgaria</i>	19.688	0	48.065	196.454	264.206
<i>France</i>	295.107	0	9.632	229	304.968
<i>Germany</i>	572.462	0	34.272	9.852	616.585
<i>Denmark</i>	58.066	0	322	521	58.909
<i>Estonia</i>	312	0	0	0	312
<i>United Kingdom</i>	604.021	0	7.075	1.398	612.494
<i>Ireland</i>	9.579	0	439	0	10.018
<i>Spain</i>	66.541	0	1.751	0	68.292
<i>Italy</i>	118.219	0	45.424	245	163.888
<i>Cyprus</i>	179.336	0	616	0	179.952
<i>Latvia</i>	3.092	0	0	0	3.092
<i>Lithuania</i>	6.683	0	787	258	7.727
<i>Luxemburg</i>	3.818	0	341	0	4.159
<i>Malta</i>	1.875	0	331	0	2.206
<i>Netherlands</i>	130.219	0	5.193	0	135.412
<i>Hungary</i>	8.176	0	6.214	2.824	17.215
<i>Poland</i>	42.004	0	4.963	5.779	52.745
<i>Portugal</i>	5.579	0	106	0	5.685
<i>Romania</i>	36.947	0	10.676	41.764	89.387
<i>Slovakia</i>	15.418	0	984	407	16.809
<i>Slovenia</i>	3.410	0	114	259	3.783
<i>Sweden</i>	98.929	0	822	0	99.752
<i>Czech Republic</i>	63.360	0	1.211	4.065	68.636
<i>Finland</i>	53.826	0	296	0	54.122
Albania	10.589	0	1.071	226.057	237.717
Switzerland	72.868	0	8.709	0	81.577
Norway	89.602	0	0	0	89.602
Iceland	906	0	0	0	906
Russia	224.213	0	764	4.392	229.370
Serbia-Montenegro	12.878	0	453	100.723	114.054
Other European countries	42.674	0	5.567	429.498	477.739
II. ASIA	109.676	0	22.664	207.776	340.117
Japan	3.373	0	697	0	4.070
Iran	0	0	2.000	1.194	3.194
Israel	49.121	0	0	153	49.274
China	6.598	0	166	0	6.764
Lebanon-Syria	3.197	0	0	0	3.197
S.Korea	2.424	0	156	0	2.580
Turkey	18.570	0	18.942	203.862	241.375
Other Middle East countries	7.716	0	193	0	7.909
Other Asian countries	18.677	0	510	2.567	21.755
III. AFRICA	14.560	0	0	0	14.560
Egypt-Sudan	2.377	0	0	0	2.377
South Africa	7.397	0	0	0	7.397
Other African countries	4.786	0	0	0	4.786
IV. AMERICA	196.274	0	2.680	0	198.955
Argentina	9.254	0	402	0	9.657
Brazil	12.479	0	0	0	12.479
Mexico	5.135	0	0	0	5.135
United States	129.530	0	1.256	0	130.787
Canada	32.658	0	763	0	33.421
Other American countries	7.217	0	259	0	7.476
V. OCEANIA	30.773	0	2.771	2.717	36.262
Australia	28.223	0	2.771	2.089	33.083
Other Oceanian countries	2.550	0	0	628	3.179
Non-identifiable countries travelers	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ARRIVALS	3.358.561	0	234.023	1.235.220	4.827.803

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Table 3: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by means of transport and entry station: January-June 2012

Station of entrance		Jan - Jun		% change	% share	
		2011	2012	2012/2011	2011	2012
I. AIR		3.644.929	3.358.561	-7,9%	68,7%	69,6%
	1 Athens	1.277.979	1.052.503	-17,6%	24,1%	21,8%
	2 Zakynthos	108.681	72.858	-33,0%	2,0%	1,5%
	3 Iraklio	589.569	559.865	-5,0%	11,1%	11,6%
	4 Thessaloniki	293.916	312.347	6,3%	5,5%	6,5%
	5 Kerkyra	187.864	203.545	8,3%	3,5%	4,2%
	6 Kos	207.649	194.890	-6,1%	3,9%	4,0%
	7 Rodos	483.268	442.332	-8,5%	9,1%	9,2%
	8 Santorini	33.240	31.371	-5,6%	0,6%	0,6%
	9 Chiania	186.440	186.993	0,3%	3,5%	3,9%
	10 Other stations	276.323	301.856	9,2%	5,2%	6,3%
II. RAILWAY		3.765	0	-100,0%	0,1%	0,0%
	1 Promachon (Serres) ⁽¹⁾	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	2 Railway stations (non-sampled)	3.765	0	-100,0%	0,1%	0,0%
III. SEA		331.425	234.023	-29,4%	6,2%	4,8%
	1 Igoumenitsa	130.693	108.383	-17,1%	2,5%	2,2%
	2 Kerkyra ⁽²⁾	7.367	0	-100,0%	0,1%	0,0%
	3 Patra	86.698	61.807	-28,7%	1,6%	1,3%
	4 Other stations	106.667	63.832	-40,2%	2,0%	1,3%
IV. ROAD		1.324.036	1.235.220	-6,7%	25,0%	25,6%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	336.030	347.645	3,5%	6,3%	7,2%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	116.363	133.688	14,9%	2,2%	2,8%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	113.191	128.997	14,0%	2,1%	2,7%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	220.682	156.083	-29,3%	4,2%	3,2%
	5 Road stations non-sample	537.770	468.807	-12,8%	10,1%	9,7%
TOTAL STATIONS		5.304.155	4.827.803	-9,0%	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.

(2) For the particular period of time there was no sampling for this station.

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 - June 2012

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), at the sections: Statistical Themes - Tourism.