



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENT ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: January - September 2012

According to the Border Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period January-September 2012, arrivals of non-residents from abroad decreased by 5,2%, as compared with the corresponding period of the year 2011.

More specifically, in January-September 2012 arrivals from Europe, which account for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (90,0%), registered a 5,2% decrease reflecting the same decrease observed for total arrivals, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded a decrease of 8,3%. Arrivals from Poland, France, Belgium, Germany, Bulgaria, Italy and Netherlands showed a significant decrease in absolute values. On the other hand, a significant increase of arrivals was observed in the cases of United Kingdom and Russia. As regards the distribution of non-residents arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals came from Germany (13,1%), the United Kingdom (12,6%) and France (6,6%). Moreover, the corresponding data for the rest of the continents show a significant decrease of arrivals, in absolute values, from America, while an increase ,in absolute values, is recorded for arrivals from Asia (Table 1).

The analysis of data by means of transportation and by point of entry shows that most arrivals are by air, while airports with the largest share of traffic to be those of Athens (15,9%), Iraklio (13,8%) and Rodos (10,7%) (Table 3).

More analytical data for the period *January-September 2012 and 2011 respectively*, are provided in the attached tables and charts and these can also be found on the portal of ELSTAT (www.statistics.gr, under the link *Statistical Themes\Tourism*).

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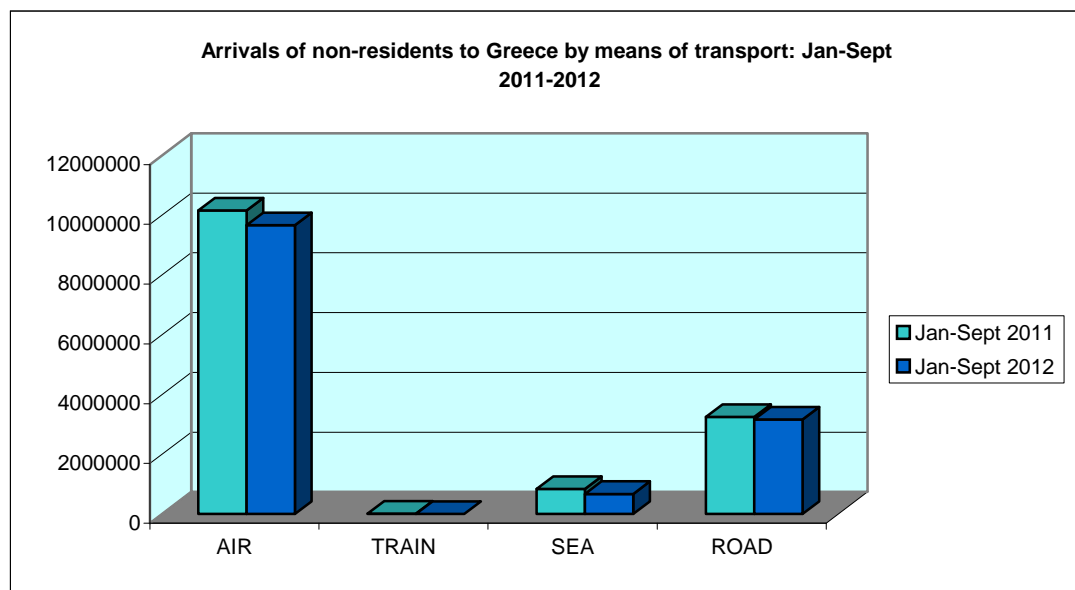
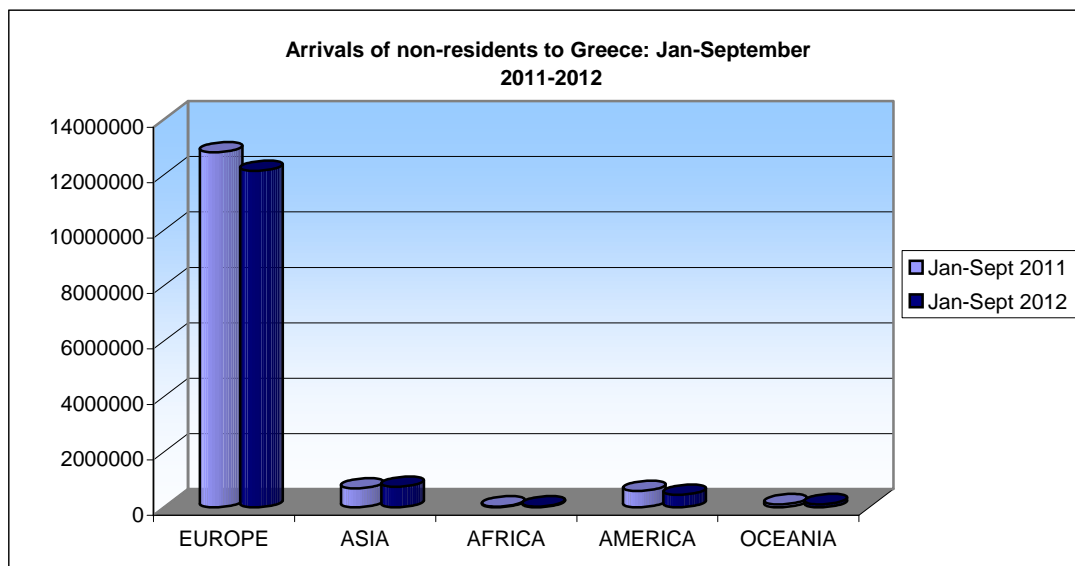


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: Jan-Sept 2012

Analysis by country of residence	Jan-September		% change 2012/2011	% share	
	2011	2012		2011	2012
I. EUROPE	12.809.425	12.138.597	-5,2	90,0%	90,0%
EUROPEAN UNION	9.321.927	8.544.521	-8,3	65,5%	63,4%
Austria	287.061	218.600	-23,8	2,0%	1,6%
Belgium	403.174	296.145	-26,5	2,8%	2,2%
Bulgaria	539.537	446.949	-17,2	3,8%	3,3%
France	1.036.288	887.152	-14,4	7,3%	6,6%
Germany	1.868.215	1.769.209	-5,3	13,1%	13,1%
Denmark	217.318	185.944	-14,4	1,5%	1,4%
Estonia	9.386	4.272	-54,5	0,1%	0,0%
United Kingdom	1.475.144	1.700.687	15,3	10,4%	12,6%
Ireland	56.024	27.966	-50,1	0,4%	0,2%
Spain	136.404	142.325	4,3	1,0%	1,1%
Italy	872.499	780.007	-10,6	6,1%	5,8%
Cyprus	360.850	340.541	-5,6	2,5%	2,5%
Latvia	6.442	6.547	1,6	0,0%	0,0%
Lithuania	13.519	19.053	40,9	0,1%	0,1%
Luxemburg	25.363	14.441	-43,1	0,2%	0,1%
Malta	1.368	2.206	61,3	0,0%	0,0%
Netherlands	496.195	410.543	-17,3	3,5%	3,0%
Hungary	66.557	66.846	0,4	0,5%	0,5%
Poland	434.974	241.885	-44,4	3,1%	1,8%
Portugal	32.188	17.680	-45,1	0,2%	0,1%
Romania	179.945	197.637	9,8	1,3%	1,5%
Slovakia	39.810	43.260	8,7	0,3%	0,3%
Slovenia	30.401	33.580	10,5	0,2%	0,2%
Sweden	300.955	287.031	-4,6	2,1%	2,1%
Czech Republic	290.712	273.832	-5,8	2,0%	2,0%
Finland	141.598	130.182	-8,1	1,0%	1,0%
Albania	299.589	360.531	20,3	2,1%	2,7%
Switzerland	285.391	261.275	-8,5	2,0%	1,9%
Norway	217.257	266.856	22,8	1,5%	2,0%
Iceland	0	1.291	-	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	656.361	811.820	23,7	4,6%	6,0%
Serbia-Montenegro	666.945	601.113	-9,9	4,7%	4,5%
Other European countries	1.361.955	1.291.190	-5,2	9,6%	9,6%
II. ASIA	683.546	741.971	8,5	4,8%	5,5%
Japan	7.612	7.694	1,1	0,1%	0,1%
Iran	8088	11.924	47,4	0,1%	0,1%
Israel	185.822	171.000	-8,0	1,3%	1,3%
China	9.971	9.705	-2,7	0,1%	0,1%
Lebanon-Syria	4.916	8.478	72,5	0,0%	0,1%
S.Korea	1.385	4.860	250,9	0,0%	0,0%
Turkey	423.124	466.166	10,2	3,0%	3,5%
Other Middle East countries	11.441	15.359	34,2	0,1%	0,1%
Other Asian countries	31.187	46.785	50,0	0,2%	0,3%
III. AFRICA	34.055	33.753	-0,9	0,2%	0,3%
Egypt-Sudan	3.189	4.274	34,0	0,0%	0,0%
South Africa	19.662	18.274	-7,1	0,1%	0,1%
Other African countries	11.204	11.206	0,0	0,1%	0,1%
IV. AMERICA	592.399	454.509	-23,3	4,2%	3,4%
Argentina	13.554	17.806	31,4	0,1%	0,1%
Brazil	44.090	24.438	-44,6	0,3%	0,2%
Mexico	3.999	7.278	82,0	0,0%	0,1%
United States	388.543	297.975	-23,3	2,7%	2,2%
Canada	123.677	86.878	-29,8	0,9%	0,6%
Other American countries	18.536	20.133	8,6	0,1%	0,1%
V. OCEANIA	110.429	114.159	3,4	0,8%	0,8%
Australia	92.423	100.627	8,9	0,6%	0,7%
Other Oceanian countries	18.006	13.532	-24,8	0,1%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents	14.229.854	13.482.989	-5,2	100,0%	100,0%
Non identifiable countries					
Travelers ⁽¹⁾	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
TOTAL ARRIVALS	14.229.854	13.482.989	-5,2	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-Sept 2012

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY ⁽¹⁾	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	8.789.130	0	595.474	2.753.992	12.138.597
EUROPEAN UNION	7.313.468	0	551.655	679.398	8.544.521
Austria	194.455	0	18.616	5.530	218.600
Belgium	288.053	0	5.428	2.665	296.145
Bulgaria	32.153	0	82.985	331.812	446.949
France	842.837	0	43.199	1.115	887.152
Germany	1.493.803	0	89.538	185.868	1.769.209
Denmark	184.274	0	1.148	521	185.944
Estonia	4.272	0	0	0	4.272
United Kingdom	1.678.836	0	19.567	2.284	1.700.687
Ireland	27.298	0	668	0	27.966
Spain	138.370	0	3.955	0	142.325
Italy	567.997	0	210.199	1.810	780.007
Cyprus	339.925	0	616	0	340.541
Latvia	6.547	0	0	0	6.547
Lithuania	17.223	0	1.573	258	19.053
Luxemburg	14.101	0	341	0	14.441
Malta	1.875	0	331	0	2.206
Netherlands	394.438	0	14.476	1.629	410.543
Hungary	43.376	0	8.770	14.700	66.846
Poland	212.149	0	11.796	17.940	241.885
Portugal	17.574	0	106	0	17.680
Romania	80.882	0	25.750	91.006	197.637
Slovakia	40.243	0	984	2.033	43.260
Slovenia	23.505	0	6.133	3.942	33.580
Sweden	275.467	0	2.257	9.307	287.031
Czech Republic	263.932	0	2.924	6.976	273.832
Finland	129.886	0	296	0	130.182
Albania	17.977	0	2.481	340.073	360.531
Switzerland	234.594	0	26.681	0	261.275
Norway	265.471	0	466	919	266.856
Iceland	1.291	0	0	0	1.291
Russia	797.818	0	3.053	10.948	811.820
Serbia-Montenegro	42.693	0	1.369	557.051	601.113
Other European countries	115.818	0	9.769	1.165.603	1.291.190
II. ASIA	281.769	0	57.405	402.798	741.971
Japan	5.863	0	1.832	0	7.694
Iran	1.991	0	8.739	1.194	11.924
Israel	170.848	0	0	153	171.000
China	9.247	0	458	0	9.705
Lebanon-Syria	8.478	0	0	0	8.478
S.Korea	3.717	0	1.144	0	4.860
Turkey	24.652	0	44.530	396.984	466.166
Other Middle East countries	15.166	0	193	0	15.359
Other Asian countries	41.807	0	510	4.467	46.785
III. AFRICA	33.567	0	0	186	33.753
Egypt-Sudan	4.088	0	0	186	4.274
South Africa	18.274	0	0	0	18.274
Other African countries	11.206	0	0	0	11.206
IV. AMERICA	447.696	0	6.813	0	454.509
Argentina	17.404	0	402	0	17.806
Brazil	24.184	0	254	0	24.438
Mexico	7.278	0	0	0	7.278
United States	294.222	0	3.753	0	297.975
Canada	85.127	0	1.751	0	86.878
Other American countries	19.481	0	652	0	20.133
V. OCEANIA	104.866	0	6.576	2.717	114.159
Australia	92.545	0	5.993	2.089	100.627
Other Oceanian countries	12.321	0	583	628	13.532
Non-identifiable countries travelers	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ARRIVALS	9.657.029	0	666.267	3.159.693	13.482.989

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

⁽¹⁾ During January-September 2012, there was no sampling for arrivals by railway.

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

Entry Station		Jan - Sep		% change	% share	
		2011	2012	2012/2011	2011	2012
I. AIR		10.153.576	9.657.029	-4,9%	71,4%	71,6%
	1 Athens	2.522.891	2.147.756	-14,9%	17,7%	15,9%
	2 Zakynthos	417.847	370.729	-11,3%	2,9%	2,7%
	3 Iraklio	1.895.081	1.855.787	-2,1%	13,3%	13,8%
	4 Thessaloniki	728.160	761.323	4,6%	5,1%	5,6%
	5 Kerkyra	699.985	756.301	8,0%	4,9%	5,6%
	6 Kos	753.624	721.964	-4,2%	5,3%	5,4%
	7 Rodos	1.521.457	1.437.968	-5,5%	10,7%	10,7%
	8 Santorini	178.681	178.922	0,1%	1,3%	1,3%
	9 Chania	581.062	603.611	3,9%	4,1%	4,5%
	10 Other stations	854.788	822.667	-3,8%	6,0%	6,1%
II. RAILWAY⁽¹⁾		3.765	0		0,0%	0,0%
	1 Promachon (Serres)	0	0		0,0%	0,0%
	2 Railway stations (non-sampled)	3.765	0		0,0%	0,0%
III. SEA		828.726	666.267	-19,6%	5,8%	4,9%
	1 Igoumenitsa	322.371	303.740	-5,8%	2,3%	2,3%
	2 Kerkyra	70.025	64.944	-7,3%	0,5%	0,5%
	3 Patra	230.202	153.832	-33,2%	1,6%	1,1%
	4 Other stations	206.128	143.750	-30,3%	1,4%	1,1%
IV. ROAD		3.243.787	3.159.693	-2,6%	22,8%	23,4%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	1.394.444	1.371.928	-1,6%	9,8%	10,2%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	175.608	216.284	23,2%	1,2%	1,6%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	261.392	280.118	7,2%	1,8%	2,1%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	377.071	298.367	-20,9%	2,6%	2,2%
	5 Road stations non-sampled	1.035.272	992.996	-4,1%	7,3%	7,4%
TOTAL STATIONS		14.229.854	13.482.989	-5,2%	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

(1) During January-September 2012, there was no sampling for arrivals by railway.

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 - September 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.