



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENT ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: January - March 2013

According to the Border Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period January-March of 2013, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 4,6%, as compared with the same period of the year 2012.

More specifically, arrivals from Europe, which account for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (78,9%), registered a decrease of 2,6% in January-March 2013 as compared with the same period of 2012, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded a decrease of 3,3%. Arrivals from Bulgaria, Spain, Russia and Germany showed a significant increase in absolute values. On the other hand, a significant decrease of arrivals, in absolute values, was observed in the cases of United Kingdom, Cyprus, Netherlands and Belgium. As regards the participation of non-residents arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals came from Bulgaria (14,6%), Albania (12,5%), Germany (8,1%), Cyprus (5,9%), United Kingdom (4,5%) and Italy (4,2%). Moreover, as regards the rest of all the continents, an increase of arrivals is observed. The most significant increase of arrivals, in absolute values, recorded from Asia, with a large contribution from Turkey (Table 1).

As regards the means of transport and the point of entry, during the aforementioned time period, it is observed that most arrivals are by road and by air. The main points of entry which account for the biggest percentage of traffic, by road, are Promahonas (8,0%) and Evzoni (7,3%). As far as the arrivals by air are concerned, the airport of Athens holds the first place with (33,1%) followed by the airport of Thessaloniki with (8,3%) (Table 3).

Detailed data for the period *January-March* of the years *2013* and *2012 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).

Information:

Trade and Services Statistics Division

Tourism Department

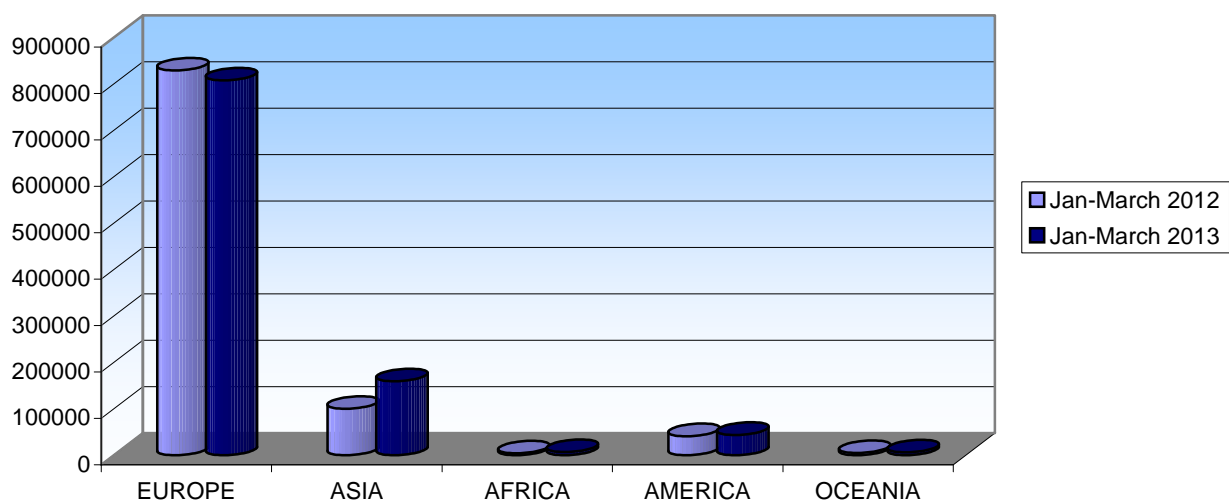
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**Arrivals of non-residents to Greece:
Jan-March 2013-2012**



**Arrivals of non-residents to Greece by means of transport:
Jan-March 2013-2012**

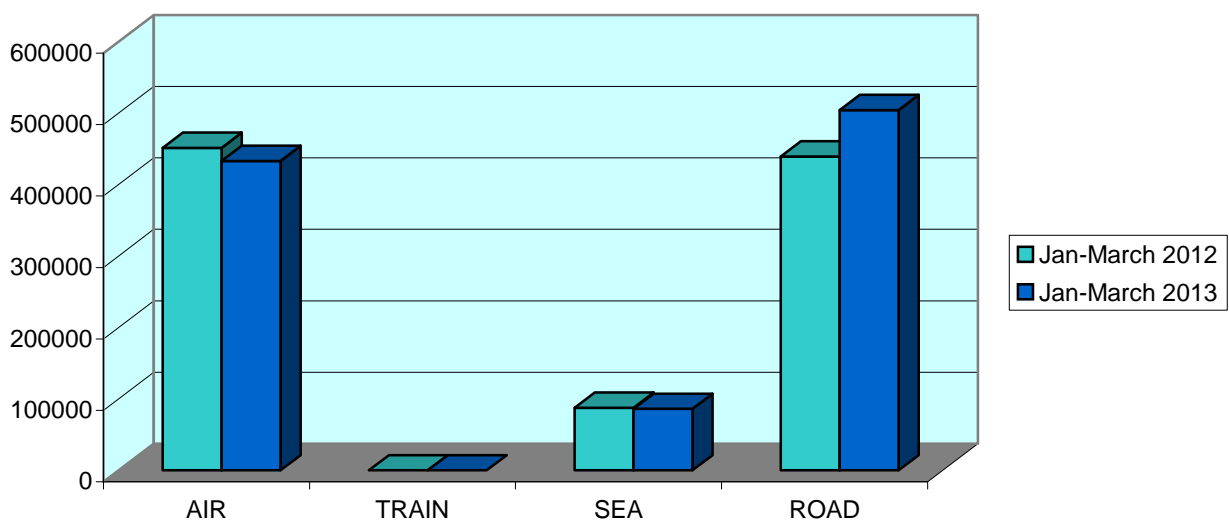


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-March 2013

Analysis by country of residence	Jan-March		% change 2013/2012	% share	
	2012	2013		2012	2013
I. EUROPE	829.154	807.719	-2,6	84,7%	78,9%
EUROPEAN UNION	523.415	506.197	-3,3	53,5%	49,5%
Austria	5.881	6.826	16,1	0,6%	0,7%
Belgium	12.936	8.077	-37,6	1,3%	0,8%
Bulgaria	128.483	149.750	16,6	13,1%	14,6%
France	32.135	30.336	-5,6	3,3%	3,0%
Germany	79.705	82.923	4,0	8,1%	8,1%
Denmark	2.753	2.367	-14,0	0,3%	0,2%
Estonia	312	329	5,6	0,0%	0,0%
United Kingdom	72.989	46.163	-36,8	7,5%	4,5%
Ireland	2.439	1.773	-27,3	0,2%	0,2%
Spain	5.790	11.559	99,6	0,6%	1,1%
Italy	41.293	42.725	3,5	4,2%	4,2%
Cyprus	67.431	60.064	-10,9	6,9%	5,9%
Latvia	0	497	-	0,0%	0,0%
Lithuania	777	885	13,9	0,1%	0,1%
Luxemburg	1.428	829	-41,9	0,1%	0,1%
Malta	1.405	161	-88,5	0,1%	0,0%
Netherlands	17.277	11.289	-34,7	1,8%	1,1%
Hungary	3.702	2.429	-34,4	0,4%	0,2%
Poland	7.669	8.993	17,3	0,8%	0,9%
Portugal	266	863	224,0	0,0%	0,1%
Romania	27.277	26.713	-2,1	2,8%	2,6%
Slovakia	1.947	758	-61,1	0,2%	0,1%
Slovenia	633	271	-57,3	0,1%	0,0%
Sweden	5.815	4.546	-21,8	0,6%	0,4%
Czech Republic	1.086	2.989	175,3	0,1%	0,3%
Finland	1.986	2.081	4,8	0,2%	0,2%
Albania	127.521	128.238	0,6	13,0%	12,5%
Switzerland	12.493	13.285	6,3	1,3%	1,3%
Norway	3.599	3.203	-11,0	0,4%	0,3%
Iceland	298	488	63,9	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	7.547	12.923	71,2	0,8%	1,3%
Serbia	19.666	20.331	3,4	2,0%	2,0%
Other European countries	134.614	123.054	-8,6	13,8%	12,0%
II. ASIA	100.074	159.288	59,2	10,2%	15,6%
Japan	1.424	1.624	14,1	0,1%	0,2%
Iran	451	1.826	305,3	0,0%	0,2%
Israel	9.960	7.892	-20,8	1,0%	0,8%
China	2.036	2.125	4,4	0,2%	0,2%
Lebanon-Syria	1.837	3.160	72,0	0,2%	0,3%
S.Korea	2.093	1.606	-23,3	0,2%	0,2%
Turkey	73.108	132.973	81,9	7,5%	13,0%
Other Middle East countries	3.178	4.323	36,0	0,3%	0,4%
Other Asian countries	5.987	3.759	-37,2	0,6%	0,4%
III. AFRICA	3.807	6.690	75,7	0,4%	0,7%
Egypt-Sudan	976	2.228	128,4	0,1%	0,2%
South Africa	1.153	783	-32,1	0,1%	0,1%
Other African countries	1.679	3.679	119,1	0,2%	0,4%
IV. AMERICA	40.910	43.623	6,6	4,2%	4,3%
Argentina	1.876	4.148	121,1	0,2%	0,4%
Brazil	2.727	3.755	37,7	0,3%	0,4%
Mexico	922	249	-73,0	0,1%	0,0%
United States	29.496	27.438	-7,0	3,0%	2,7%
Canada	5.257	4.415	-16,0	0,5%	0,4%
Other American countries	632	3.618	472,3	0,1%	0,4%
V. OCEANIA	4.614	6.033	30,8	0,5%	0,6%
Australia	3.957	4.881	23,4	0,4%	0,5%
Other Oceanian countries	657	1.152	75,3	0,1%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents	978.559	1.023.354	4,6	100,0%	100,0%
TOTAL ARRIVALS	978.559	1.023.354	4,6	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Table 2: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence and means of transport: January-March 2013

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY ⁽¹⁾	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	344.315	0	74.777	388.628	807.719
EUROPEAN UNION	297.341	0	70.904	137.951	506.197
<i>Austria</i>	4.831	0	1.153	843	6.826
<i>Belgium</i>	6.303	0	1.774	0	8.077
<i>Bulgaria</i>	3.844	0	23.394	122.512	149.750
<i>France</i>	26.825	0	3.512	0	30.336
<i>Germany</i>	74.546	0	6.827	1.550	82.923
<i>Denmark</i>	2.101	0	0	266	2.367
<i>Estonia</i>	329	0	0	0	329
<i>United Kingdom</i>	43.415	0	2.747	0	46.163
<i>Ireland</i>	1.592	0	181	0	1.773
<i>Spain</i>	9.864	0	1.695	0	11.559
<i>Italy</i>	27.111	0	15.614	0	42.725
<i>Cyprus</i>	59.494	0	570	0	60.064
<i>Latvia</i>	320	0	0	177	497
<i>Lithuania</i>	623	0	262	0	885
<i>Luxemburg</i>	443	0	386	0	829
<i>Malta</i>	0	0	161	0	161
<i>Netherlands</i>	9.775	0	1514	0	11.289
<i>Hungary</i>	140	0	2289	0	2.429
<i>Poland</i>	1.229	0	3288	4.476	8.993
<i>Portugal</i>	863	0	0	0	863
<i>Romania</i>	14.002	0	4854	7.857	26.713
<i>Slovakia</i>	647	0	111	0	758
<i>Slovenia</i>	0	0	0	271	271
<i>Sweden</i>	4.465	0	82	0	4.546
<i>Czech Republic</i>	2.499	0	490	0	2.989
<i>Finland</i>	2.081	0	0	0	2.081
Albania	10.254	0	791	117.193	128.238
Switzerland	12.362	0	602	320	13.285
Norway	3.203	0	0	0	3.203
Iceland	488	0	0	0	488
Russia	11.559	0	255	1.109	12.923
Serbia	5.788	0	511	14.032	20.331
Other European countries	3.319	0	1.714	118.021	123.054
II. ASIA	33.686	0	9.878	115.726	159.288
Japan	1.513	0	111	0	1.624
Iran	0	0	1826	0	1826
Israel	7.892	0	0	0	7.892
China	2.125	0	0	0	2.125
Lebanon-Syria	2.986	0	175	0	3.160
S.Korea	1.606	0	0	0	1.606
Turkey	9.562	0	7.686	115.726	132.973
Other Middle East countries	4.323	0	0	0	4.323
Other Asian countries	3.679	0	80	0	3.759
III. AFRICA	6.690	0	0	0	6.690
Egypt-Sudan	2.228	0	0	0	2.228
South Africa	783	0	0	0	783
Other African countries	3.679	0	0	0	3.679
IV. AMERICA	42.324	0	1.299	0	43.623
Argentina	3.674	0	474	0	4.148
Brazil	3.289	0	466	0	3.755
Mexico	249	0	0	0	249
United States	27.438	0	0	0	27.438
Canada	4.415	0	0	0	4.415
Other American countries	3.259	0	359	0	3.618
V. OCEANIA	6.033	0	0	0	6.033
Australia	4.881	0	0	0	4.881
Other Oceanian countries	1.152	0	0	0	1.152
TOTAL ARRIVALS	433.047	0	85.954	504.353	1.023.354

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

⁽¹⁾ There was not any sampling for this transportation means, since Greece is not connected via railway with any country abroad.

Table 3: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by means of transport and entry station: January-March 2013

Station of entrance		Jan - March		% change	% share	
		2012	2013	2013/2012	2012	2013
I. AIR		451.585	433.047	-4,1%	46,1%	42,3%
	1 Athens	358.952	338.907	-5,6%	36,7%	33,1%
	2 Zakynthos	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	3 Iraklio	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	4 Thessaloniki	85.154	84.780	-0,4%	8,7%	8,3%
	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	7.478	9.360	25,2%	0,8%	0,9%
II. RAILWAY ⁽¹⁾		0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	1 Promachon (Serres)	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	2 Railway stations (non-sampled)	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
III. SEA		87.685	85.954	-2,0%	9,0%	8,4%
	1 Igoumenitsa	42.617	42.649	0,1%	4,4%	4,2%
	2 Kerkyra	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	3 Patra	22.117	21.019	-5,0%	2,3%	2,1%
	4 Other stations	22.951	22.286	-2,9%	2,3%	2,2%
IV. ROAD		439.289	504.353	14,8%	44,9%	49,3%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	76.374	74.699	-2,2%	7,8%	7,3%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	68.150	67.366	-1,2%	7,0%	6,6%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	35.947	68.805	91,4%	3,7%	6,7%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	68.679	82.018	19,4%	7,0%	8,0%
	5 Road stations non-sample	190.139	211.465	11,2%	19,4%	20,7%
TOTAL STATIONS		978.559	1.023.354	4,6%	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Border Survey of the Bank of Greece.

⁽¹⁾ There was not any sampling for this transportation means, since Greece is not connected via railway with any country abroad.

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 2013

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, and road border points). There is not any sampling for border railway stations since Greece is not connected via railway with any country abroad.

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.