



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENT ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: January - December 2013

According to the Frontier Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period January-December of 2013, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 15,5%, as compared with the corresponding period of the year 2012.

More specifically, arrivals from Europe, which account for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (88,1%), registered an increase of 13,9% in January-December 2013 as compared with the corresponding period of 2012, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded an increase of 7,5%. Arrivals from Russia, France, Germany, Serbia, Poland, Italy and Netherlands showed a significant increase in absolute values. On the other hand, a significant decrease of arrivals was observed in the cases of United Kingdom, Spain, Norway and Cyprus. As regards to the distribution of arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals came from Germany (12,7%), the United Kingdom (10,3%), Russia (7,5%), France (6,4%), and Italy (5,4%). Moreover, the corresponding data for the rest of the continents show a significant increase of arrivals, in absolute values, from Asia, with a large contribution of arrivals from Turkey, and from America, with a large contribution from USA and Canada (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 air and by road. As far as the arrivals by air are concerned, the airport of Athens holds the first place with (14,9%) followed by the airport of Iraklion with (13,5%) and Rodos with (9,9%). The main point of entry which accounts for the biggest share of traffic, by road, is Evzoni with (10,6%) (Table 3).

Detailed data for the period January-December 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).

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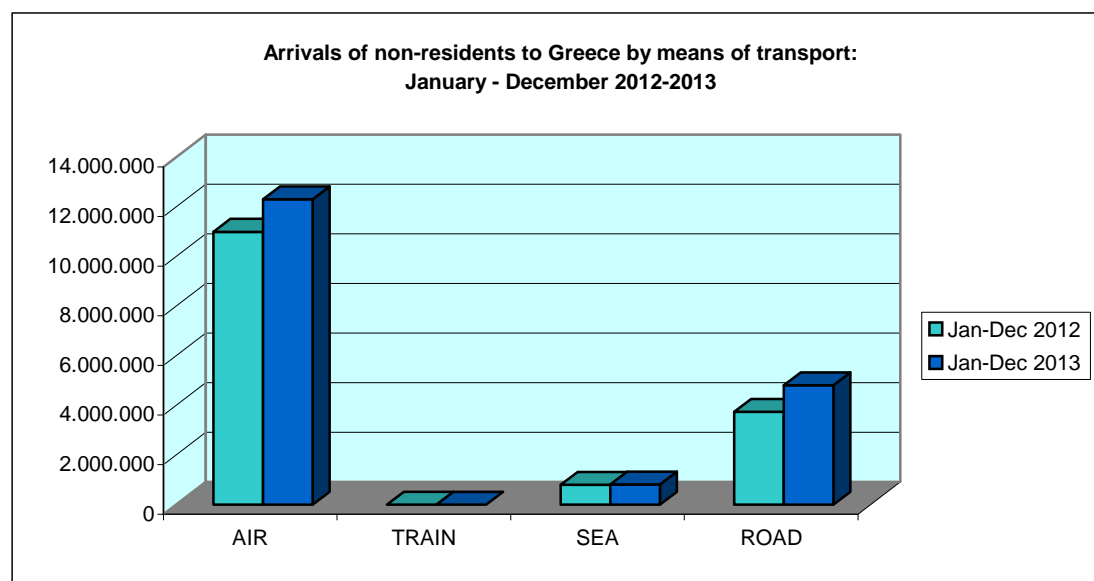
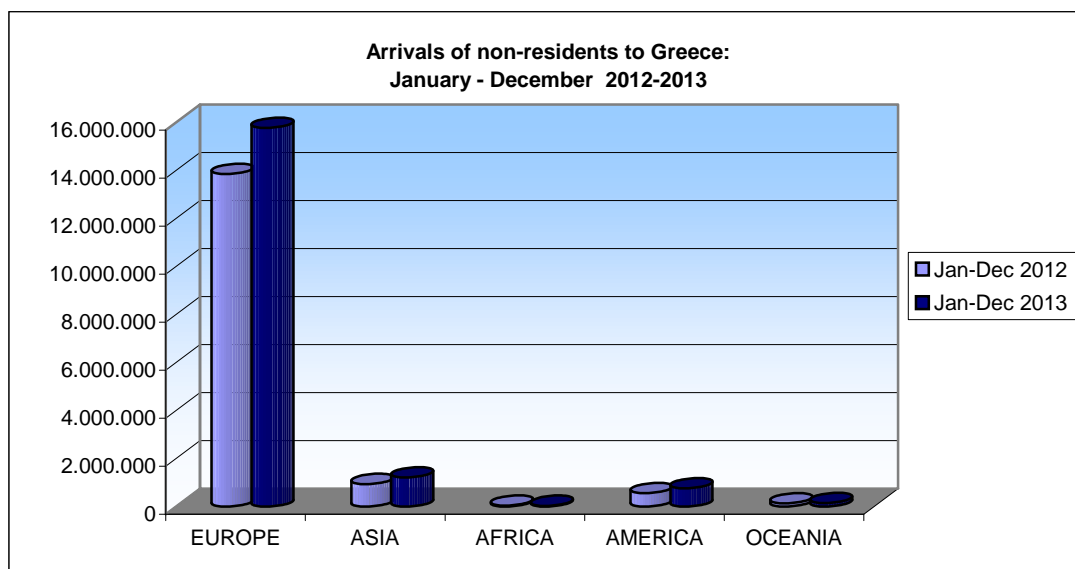


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-December 2013

| Analysis by country of residence | | Jan-December | | % change | % share | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | 2012 | 2013 | 2013/2012 | 2012 | 2013 |
| I. EUROPE | | 13.851.064 | 15.778.397 | 13,9 | 89,3% | 88,1% |
| EUROPEAN UNION | | 9.791.909 | 10.525.226 | 7,5 | 63,1% | 58,7% |
| | <i>Austria</i> | 236.416 | 236.476 | 0,0 | 1,5% | 1,3% |
| | <i>Belgium</i> | 326.937 | 344.554 | 5,4 | 2,1% | 1,9% |
| | <i>Bulgaria</i> | 599.110 | 691.874 | 15,5 | 3,9% | 3,9% |
| | <i>France</i> | 977.376 | 1.152.217 | 17,9 | 6,3% | 6,4% |
| | <i>Germany</i> | 2.108.787 | 2.267.546 | 7,5 | 13,6% | 12,7% |
| | <i>Denmark</i> | 205.194 | 202.477 | -1,3 | 1,3% | 1,1% |
| | <i>Estonia</i> | 4.757 | 8.094 | 70,2 | 0,0% | 0,0% |
| | <i>United Kingdom</i> | 1.920.794 | 1.846.333 | -3,9 | 12,4% | 10,3% |
| | <i>Ireland</i> | 32.357 | 42.575 | 31,6 | 0,2% | 0,2% |
| | <i>Spain</i> | 155.722 | 91.988 | -40,9 | 1,0% | 0,5% |
| | <i>Italy</i> | 848.073 | 964.314 | 13,7 | 5,5% | 5,4% |
| | <i>Croatia ⁽¹⁾</i> | - | 4.381 | - | - | 0,0% |
| | <i>Cyprus</i> | 424.827 | 399.008 | -6,1 | 2,7% | 2,2% |
| | <i>Latvia</i> | 15.300 | 20.283 | 32,6 | 0,1% | 0,1% |
| | <i>Lithuania</i> | 21.601 | 31.874 | 47,6 | 0,1% | 0,2% |
| | <i>Luxemburg</i> | 15.192 | 20.498 | 34,9 | 0,1% | 0,1% |
| | <i>Malta</i> | 2.206 | 1.494 | -32,3 | 0,0% | 0,0% |
| | <i>Netherlands</i> | 478.483 | 580.867 | 21,4 | 3,1% | 3,2% |
| | <i>Hungary</i> | 69.789 | 80.623 | 15,5 | 0,4% | 0,4% |
| | <i>Poland</i> | 254.682 | 385.474 | 51,4 | 1,6% | 2,2% |
| | <i>Portugal</i> | 20.483 | 13.304 | -35,1 | 0,1% | 0,1% |
| | <i>Romania</i> | 230.396 | 278.873 | 21,0 | 1,5% | 1,6% |
| | <i>Slovakia</i> | 44.782 | 46.260 | 3,3 | 0,3% | 0,3% |
| | <i>Slovenia</i> | 35.721 | 18.689 | -47,7 | 0,2% | 0,1% |
| | <i>Sweden</i> | 319.756 | 368.834 | 15,3 | 2,1% | 2,1% |
| | <i>Czech Republic</i> | 289.034 | 286.974 | -0,7 | 1,9% | 1,6% |
| | <i>Finland</i> | 154.134 | 139.341 | -9,6 | 1,0% | 0,8% |
| | <i>Albania</i> | 469.213 | 504.809 | 7,6 | 3,0% | 2,8% |
| | <i>Switzerland</i> | 299.619 | 346.518 | 15,7 | 1,9% | 1,9% |
| | <i>Norway</i> | 294.114 | 264.816 | -10,0 | 1,9% | 1,5% |
| | <i>Iceland</i> | 2.059 | 1.578 | -23,4 | 0,0% | 0,0% |
| | <i>Russia</i> | 874.787 | 1.352.901 | 54,7 | 5,6% | 7,5% |
| | <i>Serbia</i> | 620.450 | 778.765 | 25,5 | 4,0% | 4,3% |
| | <i>Other European countries</i> | 1.498.913 | 2.003.784 | 33,7 | 9,7% | 11,2% |
| II. ASIA | | 937.050 | 1.213.148 | 29,5 | 6,0% | 6,8% |
| | <i>Japan</i> | 8.841 | 13.141 | 48,6 | 0,1% | 0,1% |
| | <i>Iran</i> | 13.631 | 5.243 | -61,5 | 0,1% | 0,0% |
| | <i>Israel</i> | 207.711 | 212.466 | 2,3 | 1,3% | 1,2% |
| | <i>China</i> | 12.203 | 28.328 | 132,1 | 0,1% | 0,2% |
| | <i>Lebanon-Syria</i> | 12.846 | 36.591 | 184,8 | 0,1% | 0,2% |
| | <i>S.Korea</i> | 6.101 | 7.307 | 19,8 | 0,0% | 0,0% |
| | <i>Turkey</i> | 602.306 | 831.113 | 38,0 | 3,9% | 4,6% |
| | <i>Other Middle East countries</i> | 18.062 | 32.220 | 78,4 | 0,1% | 0,2% |
| | <i>Other Asian countries</i> | 55.351 | 46.739 | -15,6 | 0,4% | 0,3% |
| III. AFRICA | | 37.411 | 30.905 | -17,4 | 0,2% | 0,2% |
| | <i>Egypt-Sudan</i> | 4.724 | 4.038 | -14,5 | 0,0% | 0,0% |
| | <i>South Africa</i> | 19.686 | 17.644 | -10,4 | 0,1% | 0,1% |
| | <i>Other African countries</i> | 13.002 | 9.223 | -29,1 | 0,1% | 0,1% |
| IV. AMERICA | | 558.728 | 754.488 | 35,0 | 3,6% | 4,2% |
| | <i>Argentina</i> | 20.207 | 25.488 | 26,1 | 0,1% | 0,1% |
| | <i>Brazil</i> | 31.125 | 27.355 | -12,1 | 0,2% | 0,2% |
| | <i>Mexico</i> | 8.067 | 19.863 | 146,2 | 0,1% | 0,1% |
| | <i>United States</i> | 373.831 | 466.520 | 24,8 | 2,4% | 2,6% |
| | <i>Canada</i> | 102.694 | 186.701 | 81,8 | 0,7% | 1,0% |
| | <i>Other American countries</i> | 22.805 | 28.560 | 25,2 | 0,1% | 0,2% |
| V. OCEANIA | | 133.368 | 142.642 | 7,0 | 0,9% | 0,8% |
| | <i>Australia</i> | 117.852 | 129.112 | 9,6 | 0,8% | 0,7% |
| | <i>Other Oceanian countries</i> | 15.516 | 13.530 | -12,8 | 0,1% | 0,1% |
| VI. Arrivals of non-residents | | 15.517.622 | 17.919.580 | 15,5 | 100,0% | 100,0% |
| TOTAL ARRIVALS | | 15.517.622 | 17.919.580 | 15,5 | 100,0% | 100,0% |

Source: Frontier Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Note: 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.

⁽¹⁾ From the 1st of July 2013 onwards, after the accession of Croatia to the EU, the data for this country are presented together with the other EU Member States. The corresponding data for the first semester 2013, as well as for the previous years are included under "Other European countries".

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

| Analysis by country of residence | AIR | RAILWAY ⁽¹⁾ | SEA | ROAD | TOTAL |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| I. EUROPE | 11.001.613 | 0 | 718.637 | 4.058.146 | 15.778.397 |
| EUROPEAN UNION | 8.826.329 | 0 | 660.902 | 1.037.994 | 10.525.226 |
| Austria | 209.699 | 0 | 21.484 | 5.294 | 236.477 |
| Belgium | 334.671 | 0 | 9.883 | 0 | 344.553 |
| Bulgaria | 13.275 | 0 | 90.873 | 587.726 | 691.873 |
| France | 1.102.861 | 0 | 45.523 | 3.833 | 1.152.218 |
| Germany | 1.907.633 | 0 | 121.676 | 238.237 | 2.267.546 |
| Denmark | 200.637 | 0 | 1.574 | 266 | 202.477 |
| Estonia | 8.094 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8.094 |
| United Kingdom | 1.821.711 | 0 | 22.025 | 2.597 | 1.846.333 |
| Ireland | 42.068 | 0 | 507 | 0 | 42.575 |
| Spain | 85.327 | 0 | 6.660 | 0 | 91.988 |
| Italy | 703.816 | 0 | 252.707 | 7.793 | 964.315 |
| Croatia ⁽²⁾ | 1.360 | 0 | 3.021 | 0 | 4.381 |
| Cyprus | 395.967 | 0 | 3.040 | 0 | 399.008 |
| Latvia | 18.972 | 0 | 158 | 1.153 | 20.283 |
| Lithuania | 28.595 | 0 | 1.447 | 1.831 | 31.874 |
| Luxembourg | 19.824 | 0 | 674 | 0 | 20.498 |
| Malta | 1.333 | 0 | 161 | 0 | 1.494 |
| Netherlands | 564.574 | 0 | 16.293 | 0 | 580.867 |
| Hungary | 59.139 | 0 | 8.077 | 13.406 | 80.622 |
| Poland | 353.865 | 0 | 8.809 | 22.799 | 385.474 |
| Portugal | 10.717 | 0 | 1.096 | 1.491 | 13.303 |
| Romania | 110.942 | 0 | 31.461 | 136.471 | 278.873 |
| Slovakia | 45.878 | 0 | 382 | 0 | 46.260 |
| Slovenia | 14.317 | 0 | 4.102 | 271 | 18.689 |
| Sweden | 358.208 | 0 | 2.519 | 8.107 | 368.834 |
| Czech Republic | 273.691 | 0 | 6.562 | 6.720 | 286.974 |
| Finland | 139.152 | 0 | 189 | 0 | 139.341 |
| Albania | 31.775 | 0 | 2.802 | 470.232 | 504.809 |
| Switzerland | 308.303 | 0 | 35.211 | 3.004 | 346.518 |
| Norway | 264.742 | 0 | 74 | 0 | 264.816 |
| Iceland | 1.056 | 0 | 0 | 521 | 1.577 |
| Russia | 1.315.672 | 0 | 8.136 | 29.093 | 1.352.901 |
| Serbia | 26.470 | 0 | 4.101 | 748.195 | 778.765 |
| Other European countries | 227.267 | 0 | 7.411 | 1.769.107 | 2.003.784 |
| II. ASIA | 401.312 | 0 | 64.414 | 747.423 | 1.213.149 |
| Japan | 11.817 | 0 | 1.324 | 0 | 13.141 |
| Iran | 1.569 | 0 | 1.826 | 1.848 | 5.242 |
| Israel | 212.466 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 212.466 |
| China | 27.862 | 0 | 466 | 0 | 28.328 |
| Lebanon-Syria | 36.417 | 0 | 175 | 0 | 36.592 |
| S.Korea | 7.307 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7.307 |
| Turkey | 34.843 | 0 | 57.333 | 738.937 | 831.113 |
| Other Middle East countries | 31.924 | 0 | 297 | 0 | 32.220 |
| Other Asian countries | 37.106 | 0 | 2.995 | 6.637 | 46.738 |
| III. AFRICA | 29.870 | 0 | 1.035 | 0 | 30.905 |
| Egypt-Sudan | 4.037 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.037 |
| South Africa | 17.645 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17.645 |
| Other African countries | 8.189 | 0 | 1.035 | 0 | 9.224 |
| IV. AMERICA | 736.703 | 0 | 15.505 | 2.280 | 754.488 |
| Argentina | 24.110 | 0 | 1.378 | 0 | 25.488 |
| Brazil | 25.112 | 0 | 2.243 | 0 | 27.355 |
| Mexico | 18.256 | 0 | 1.607 | 0 | 19.863 |
| United States | 460.422 | 0 | 5.465 | 633 | 466.520 |
| Canada | 182.680 | 0 | 2.374 | 1.647 | 186.701 |
| Other American countries | 26.124 | 0 | 2.437 | 0 | 28.561 |
| V. OCEANIA | 132.949 | 0 | 7.369 | 2.323 | 142.642 |
| Australia | 120.610 | 0 | 6.178 | 2.323 | 129.112 |
| Other Oceanian countries | 12.339 | 0 | 1.191 | 0 | 13.530 |
| TOTAL ARRIVALS | 12.302.448 | 0 | 806.960 | 4.810.172 | 17.919.580 |

Source: Frondier Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Note: 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.

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

⁽²⁾ From the 1st of July 2013 onwards, after the accession of Croatia to the EU, the data for this country are presented together with the other EU Member States. The corresponding data for the first semester 2013, as well as for the previous years are included under "Other European countries".

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

| Station of entrance | | Jan - December | | % change | % share | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | 2012 | 2013 | 2013/2012 | 2012 | 2013 |
| I. AIR | | 10.992.903 | 12.302.448 | 11,9% | 70,8% | 68,7% |
| | 1 Athens | 2.651.062 | 2.665.110 | 0,5% | 17,1% | 14,9% |
| | 2 Zakynthos | 370.729 | 424.309 | 14,5% | 2,4% | 2,4% |
| | 3 Iraklio | 2.067.475 | 2.420.486 | 17,1% | 13,3% | 13,5% |
| | 4 Thessaloniki | 901.573 | 908.005 | 0,7% | 5,8% | 5,1% |
| | 5 Kerkyra | 824.000 | 914.622 | 11,0% | 5,3% | 5,1% |
| | 6 Kos | 788.971 | 912.954 | 15,7% | 5,1% | 5,1% |
| | 7 Rodos | 1.593.298 | 1.781.768 | 11,8% | 10,3% | 9,9% |
| | 8 Santorini | 178.922 | 217.284 | 21,4% | 1,2% | 1,2% |
| | 9 Chiania | 681.497 | 819.882 | 20,3% | 4,4% | 4,6% |
| | 10 Other stations | 935.375 | 1.238.028 | 32,4% | 6,0% | 6,9% |
| 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 | | 790.469 | 806.960 | 2,1% | 5,1% | 4,5% |
| | 1 Igoumenitsa | 360.186 | 373.186 | 3,6% | 2,3% | 2,1% |
| | 2 Kerkyra ⁽²⁾ | 28.953 | 21.069 | -27,2% | 0,2% | 0,1% |
| | 3 Patra | 189.219 | 199.954 | 5,7% | 1,2% | 1,1% |
| | 4 Other stations ⁽²⁾ | 212.112 | 212.751 | 0,3% | 1,4% | 1,2% |
| IV. ROAD | | 3.734.249 | 4.810.172 | 28,8% | 24,1% | 26,8% |
| | 1 Evzoni (Kilkis) | 1.494.351 | 1.905.667 | 27,5% | 9,6% | 10,6% |
| | 2 Kakavia (Ioannina) | 276.181 | 290.263 | 5,1% | 1,8% | 1,6% |
| | 3 Kipi (Evros) | 347.905 | 522.900 | 50,3% | 2,2% | 2,9% |
| | 4 Promachon (Serres) | 377.894 | 565.014 | 49,5% | 2,4% | 3,2% |
| | 5 Road stations non-sample | 1.237.919 | 1.526.328 | 23,3% | 8,0% | 8,5% |
| TOTAL STATIONS | | 15.517.622 | 17.919.580 | 15,5% | 100,0% | 100,0% |

Source: Frondier Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Note: 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.

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

⁽²⁾ The data for January-December 2012 have been revised on account of erroneous wording by mistake.

Explanatory Notes

Arrivals in Greece of non-residents from abroad

The "Frontier 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 "Frontier 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 "Frontier 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 2013

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

Frontier 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 "Frontier 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.