



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENTS ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: January - March 2014

According to the Frontier Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period January-March of 2014, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 16,0%, as compared with the corresponding period of the year 2013.

More specifically, arrivals from Europe, which accounts for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (78,4%), registered an increase of 15,2% in January-March 2014 as compared with the corresponding period of 2013, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded an increase of 18,2%. Arrivals from United Kingdom, Romania, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Russia and Netherlands showed a significant increase in absolute values. On the other hand, a significant decrease of arrivals was observed in the cases of Albania and France. As regards to the distribution of arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals came from Bulgaria (14,2%), Albania (8,7%), Germany and Cyprus with the same percentage (6,9%) and the United Kingdom (6,2%). 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 (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 (8,5%) and Evzoni (7,9%). As far as the arrivals by air are concerned, the airport of Athens holds the first place with (35,4%) followed by the airport of Thessaloniki with (7,7%) (Table 3).

Detailed data for the period January-March of the years 2014 and 2013 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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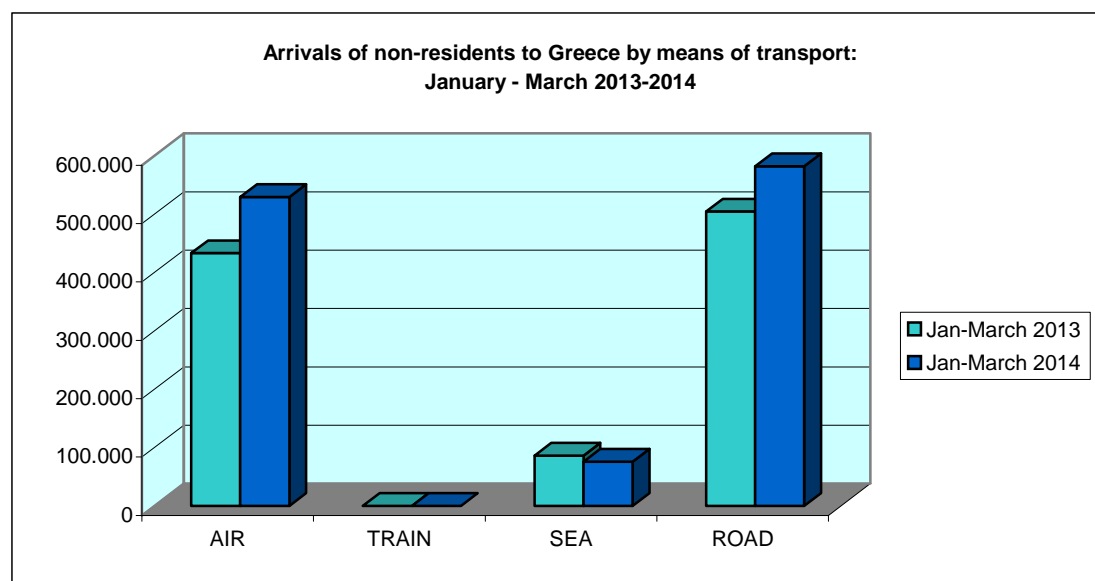
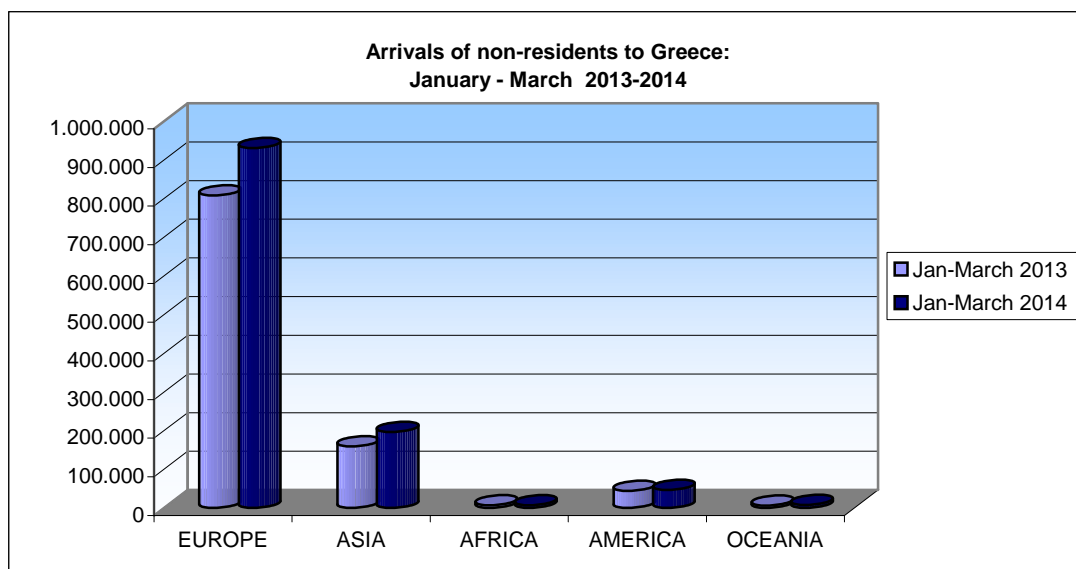


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-March 2014

Analysis by country of residence	Jan-March		% change	% share	
	2013	2014	2014/2013	2013	2014
I. EUROPE	807.719	930.307	15,2	78,9%	78,4%
EUROPEAN UNION	506.197	598.439	18,2	49,5%	50,4%
Austria	6.827	5.334	-21,9	0,7%	0,4%
Belgium	8.076	5.363	-33,6	0,8%	0,5%
Bulgaria	149.750	169.077	12,9	14,6%	14,2%
France	30.336	18.528	-38,9	3,0%	1,6%
Germany	82.923	81.890	-1,2	8,1%	6,9%
Denmark	2.367	5.930	150,5	0,2%	0,5%
Estonia	329	1.550	371,0	0,0%	0,1%
United Kingdom	46.163	73.245	58,7	4,5%	6,2%
Ireland	1.773	4.025	126,9	0,2%	0,3%
Spain	11.559	8.309	-28,1	1,1%	0,7%
Italy	42.725	38.979	-8,8	4,2%	3,3%
Croatia ⁽¹⁾	-	2.116	-	-	0,2%
Cyprus	60.064	81.730	36,1	5,9%	6,9%
Latvia	497	0	-100,0	0,0%	0,0%
Lithuania	885	758	-14,3	0,1%	0,1%
Luxemburg	829	763	-8,0	0,1%	0,1%
Malta	161	0	-100,0	0,0%	0,0%
Netherlands	11.289	23.705	110,0	1,1%	2,0%
Hungary	2.429	2.618	7,8	0,2%	0,2%
Poland	8.993	8.604	-4,3	0,9%	0,7%
Portugal	863	774	-10,3	0,1%	0,1%
Romania	26.713	49.118	83,9	2,6%	4,1%
Slovakia	758	722	-4,7	0,1%	0,1%
Slovenia	271	1.387	412,8	0,0%	0,1%
Sweden	4.546	8.795	93,5	0,4%	0,7%
Czech Republic	2.989	2.365	-20,9	0,3%	0,2%
Finland	2.081	2.754	32,3	0,2%	0,2%
Albania	128.238	103.765	-19,1	12,5%	8,7%
Switzerland	13.285	16.453	23,8	1,3%	1,4%
Norway	3.203	2.847	-11,1	0,3%	0,2%
Iceland	488	407	-16,6	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	12.923	25.852	100,0	1,3%	2,2%
Serbia	20.331	25.835	27,1	2,0%	2,2%
Other European countries	123.054	156.709	27,3	12,0%	13,2%
II. ASIA	159.288	196.236	23,2	15,6%	16,5%
Japan	1.624	4.916	202,7	0,2%	0,4%
Iran	1.826	235	-87,1	0,2%	0,0%
Israel	7.892	9.947	26,0	0,8%	0,8%
China	2.125	6.685	214,6	0,2%	0,6%
Lebanon-Syria	3.160	5.049	59,8	0,3%	0,4%
S.Korea	1.606	4.674	191,1	0,2%	0,4%
Turkey	132.973	141.705	6,6	13,0%	11,9%
Other Middle East countries	4.323	9.177	112,3	0,4%	0,8%
Other Asian countries	3.759	13.849	268,4	0,4%	1,2%
III. AFRICA	6.690	6.757	1,0	0,7%	0,6%
Egypt-Sudan	2.228	1.254	-43,7	0,2%	0,1%
South Africa	783	1.805	130,5	0,1%	0,2%
Other African countries	3.679	3.699	0,6	0,4%	0,3%
IV. AMERICA	43.623	46.321	6,2	4,3%	3,9%
Argentina	4.148	3.456	-16,7	0,4%	0,3%
Brazil	3.755	1.462	-61,1	0,4%	0,1%
Mexico	249	719	189,1	0,0%	0,1%
United States	27.438	31.872	16,2	2,7%	2,7%
Canada	4.415	4.728	7,1	0,4%	0,4%
Other American countries	3.618	4.083	12,9	0,4%	0,3%
V. OCEANIA	6.033	7.278	20,6	0,6%	0,6%
Australia	4.881	6.501	33,2	0,5%	0,5%
Other Oceanian countries	1.152	777	-32,5	0,1%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents	1.023.354	1.186.900	16,0	100,0%	100,0%
ARRIVALS	1.023.354	1.186.900	16,0	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-March 2014

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY ⁽¹⁾	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	404.873	0	64.773	460.661	930.307
EUROPEAN UNION	351.840	0	61.315	185.284	598.439
<i>Austria</i>	4.273	0	1.061	0	5.334
<i>Belgium</i>	5.263	0	100	0	5.363
<i>Bulgaria</i>	5.625	0	23.205	140.247	169.077
<i>France</i>	15.839	0	1.591	1.098	18.528
<i>Germany</i>	67.706	0	7.288	6.896	81.890
<i>Denmark</i>	5.785	0	145	0	5.930
<i>Estonia</i>	834	0	0	716	1.550
<i>United Kingdom</i>	71.457	0	1.789	0	73.245
<i>Ireland</i>	3.710	0	314	0	4.025
<i>Spain</i>	7.617	0	692	0	8.309
<i>Italy</i>	24.974	0	14.005	0	38.979
<i>Croatia ⁽²⁾</i>	2.116	0	0	0	2.116
<i>Cyprus</i>	80.897	0	833	0	81.730
<i>Latvia</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lithuania</i>	674	0	85	0	758
<i>Luxemburg</i>	763	0	0	0	763
<i>Malta</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Netherlands</i>	22.269	0	920	517	23.705
<i>Hungary</i>	928	0	1.133	557	2.618
<i>Poland</i>	2.966	0	1.471	4.168	8.604
<i>Portugal</i>	647	0	126	0	774
<i>Romania</i>	13.685	0	5.119	30.314	49.118
<i>Slovakia</i>	492	0	230	0	722
<i>Slovenia</i>	415	0	972	0	1.387
<i>Sweden</i>	8.580	0	0	215	8.795
<i>Czech Republic</i>	1.573	0	235	557	2.365
<i>Finland</i>	2.754	0	0	0	2.754
<i>Albania</i>	5.557	0	364	97.843	103.765
<i>Switzerland</i>	15.289	0	1.164	0	16.453
<i>Norway</i>	2.370	0	477	0	2.847
<i>Iceland</i>	407	0	0	0	407
<i>Russia</i>	22.496	0	447	2.908	25.852
<i>Serbia</i>	3.383	0	835	21.617	25.835
Other European countries	3.531	0	170	153.008	156.709
II. ASIA	64.526	0	10.437	121.273	196.236
<i>Japan</i>	4.405	0	510	0	4.916
<i>Iran</i>	235	0	0	0	235
<i>Israel</i>	9.947	0	0	0	9.947
<i>China</i>	6.685	0	0	0	6.685
<i>Lebanon-Syria</i>	5.049	0	0	0	5.049
<i>S.Korea</i>	4.674	0	0	0	4.674
<i>Turkey</i>	12.568	0	9.545	119.591	141.705
Other Middle East countries	9.177	0	0	0	9.177
Other Asian countries	11.786	0	381	1.682	13.849
III. AFRICA	6.757	0	0	0	6.757
<i>Egypt-Sudan</i>	1.254	0	0	0	1.254
<i>South Africa</i>	1.805	0	0	0	1.805
Other African countries	3.699	0	0	0	3.699
IV. AMERICA	46.321	0	0	0	46.321
<i>Argentina</i>	3.456	0	0	0	3.456
<i>Brazil</i>	1.462	0	0	0	1.462
<i>Mexico</i>	719	0	0	0	719
<i>United States</i>	31.872	0	0	0	31.872
<i>Canada</i>	4.728	0	0	0	4.728
Other American countries	4.083	0	0	0	4.083
V. OCEANIA	6.920	0	358	0	7.278
<i>Australia</i>	6.143	0	358	0	6.501
Other Oceanian countries	777	0	0	0	777
TOTAL ARRIVALS	529.399	0	75.568	581.934	1.186.900

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- March 2014

Station of entrance		Jan - March		% change	% share	
		2013	2014	2014/2013	2013	2014
I. AIR		433.047	529.399	22,2%	42,3%	44,6%
	1 Athens	338.907	419.669	23,8%	33,1%	35,4%
	2 Zakynthos	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	3 Iraklio	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	4 Thessaloniki	84.780	91.032	7,4%	8,3%	7,7%
	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	9.360	18.698	99,8%	0,9%	1,6%
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		85.954	75.568	-12,1%	8,4%	6,4%
	1 Igoumenitsa	42.649	45.462	6,6%	4,2%	3,8%
	2 Kerkyra	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	3 Patra	21.019	22.009	4,7%	2,1%	1,9%
	4 Other stations	22.286	8.097	-63,7%	2,2%	0,7%
IV. ROAD		504.353	581.934	15,4%	49,3%	49,0%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	74.699	94.086	26,0%	7,3%	7,9%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	67.366	52.599	-21,9%	6,6%	4,4%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	68.805	65.071	-5,4%	6,7%	5,5%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	82.018	101.371	23,6%	8,0%	8,5%
	5 Road stations non-sample	211.465	268.807	27,1%	20,7%	22,6%
TOTAL STATIONS		1.023.354	1.186.900	16,0%	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.

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-residents 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 - March 2014

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.