



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENTS ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: January - June 2014

According to the Frontier Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period January-June of 2014, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 15,6%, 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 (85,4%), registered an increase of 14,6% in January-June 2014 as compared with the corresponding period of 2013, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded an increase of 17,7%. There was a significant increase in arrivals, in absolute values, from United Kingdom (33,8%), France (15,1%), Netherlands (32,2%), Romania (58,0%), Russia (13,5%), Cyprus (29,0%) and Bulgaria (12,8%). On the other hand, a significant decrease of arrivals was observed in the cases of Italy (-10,2%), Albania (-8,0%) and Denmark (-26,2%). Percentage increases in arrivals from Asia, Africa, America and Oceania were larger than for Europe.

As regards to the contribution of arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals came from Germany (11,4%) the United Kingdom (11,1%), France (6,6%) Russia (6,1%) and Bulgaria (6,0%). With regard to other continents there was a large contribution of arrivals from Turkey (5,5%) and from USA (3,2%) (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 (20,7%) followed by the airports of Iraklion (11,6%), Rodos with (8,6%) and Thessaloniki with (5,5%). The main points of entry which account for the biggest percentage of traffic, by road, are Evzoni (6,5%) and Promahonas (3,9%) (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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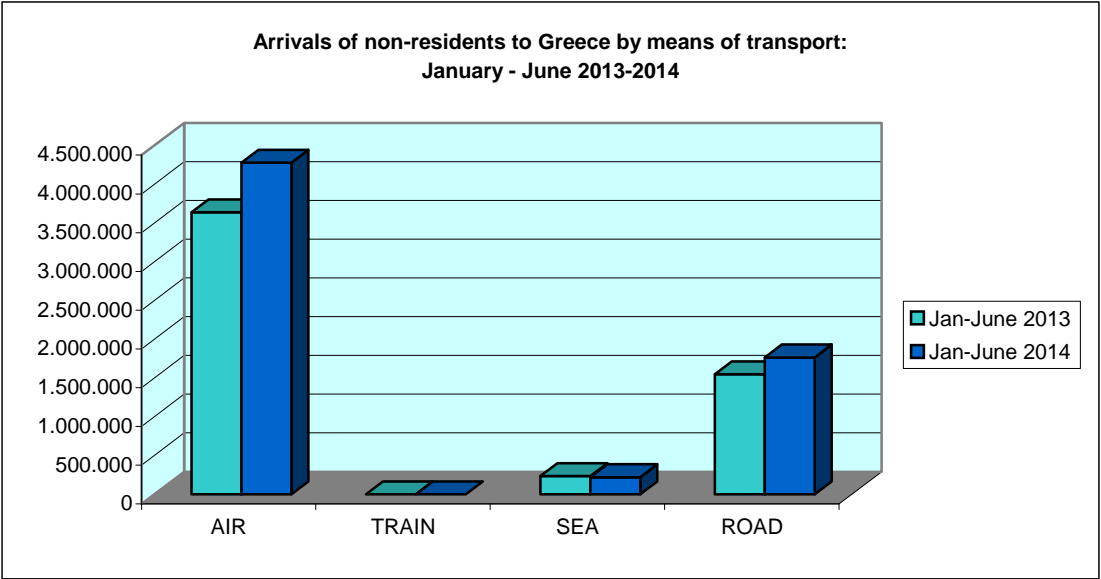
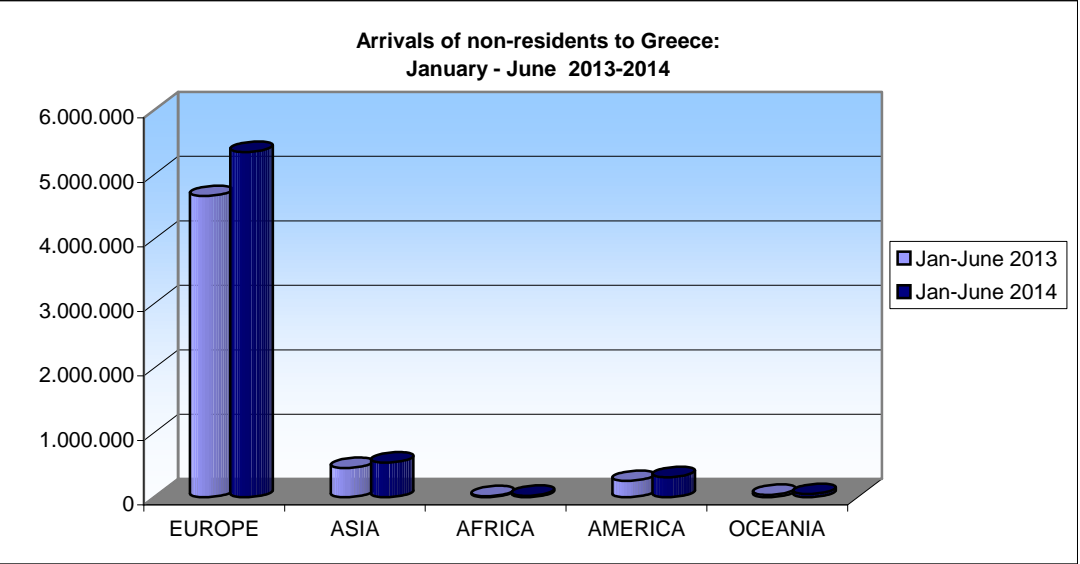


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-June 2014

Analysis by country of residence	Jan-June		% change	% share	
	2013	2014	2014/2013	2013	2014
I. EUROPE	4.668.014	5.350.441	14,6	86,1%	85,4%
EUROPEAN UNION	3.143.970	3.700.938	17,7	58,0%	59,1%
<i>Austria</i>	61.592	68.251	10,8	1,1%	1,1%
<i>Belgium</i>	101.416	124.096	22,4	1,9%	2,0%
<i>Bulgaria</i>	331.572	374.048	12,8	6,1%	6,0%
<i>France</i>	358.038	412.052	15,1	6,6%	6,6%
<i>Germany</i>	700.428	713.823	1,9	12,9%	11,4%
<i>Denmark</i>	68.026	50.194	-26,2	1,3%	0,8%
<i>Estonia</i>	3.109	10.722	244,9	0,1%	0,2%
<i>United Kingdom</i>	519.828	695.602	33,8	9,6%	11,1%
<i>Ireland</i>	11.576	21.577	86,4	0,2%	0,3%
<i>Spain</i>	34.813	39.298	12,9	0,6%	0,6%
<i>Italy</i>	203.531	182.686	-10,2	3,8%	2,9%
<i>Croatia ⁽¹⁾</i>	-	7.348	-	-	0,1%
<i>Cyprus</i>	150.849	194.651	29,0	2,8%	3,1%
<i>Latvia</i>	7.219	9.720	34,6	0,1%	0,2%
<i>Lithuania</i>	9.929	14.892	50,0	0,2%	0,2%
<i>Luxemburg</i>	6.011	4.659	-22,5	0,1%	0,1%
<i>Malta</i>	519	945	82,0	0,0%	0,0%
<i>Netherlands</i>	165.987	219.503	32,2	3,1%	3,5%
<i>Hungary</i>	17.403	10.319	-40,7	0,3%	0,2%
<i>Poland</i>	98.132	132.920	35,5	1,8%	2,1%
<i>Portugal</i>	3.495	5.219	49,3	0,1%	0,1%
<i>Romania</i>	83.318	131.658	58,0	1,5%	2,1%
<i>Slovakia</i>	2.069	4.041	95,4	0,0%	0,1%
<i>Slovenia</i>	1.889	3.851	103,9	0,0%	0,1%
<i>Sweden</i>	102.138	123.281	20,7	1,9%	2,0%
<i>Czech Republic</i>	52.292	87.123	66,6	1,0%	1,4%
<i>Finland</i>	48.791	58.460	19,8	0,9%	0,9%
Albania	258.565	237.935	-8,0	4,8%	3,8%
Switzerland	81.628	103.948	27,3	1,5%	1,7%
Norway	84.585	89.713	6,1	1,6%	1,4%
Iceland	888	1.364	53,5	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	337.103	382.451	13,5	6,2%	6,1%
Serbia	164.023	179.502	9,4	3,0%	2,9%
Other European countries	597.252	654.590	9,6	11,0%	10,4%
II. ASIA	452.023	535.756	18,5	8,3%	8,6%
Japan	3.735	13.167	252,5	0,1%	0,2%
Iran	1.826	560	-69,3	0,0%	0,0%
Israel	51.366	73.305	42,7	0,9%	1,2%
China	9.638	25.068	160,1	0,2%	0,4%
Lebanon-Syria	9.362	11.723	25,2	0,2%	0,2%
S.Korea	4.113	7.121	73,1	0,1%	0,1%
Turkey	346.009	345.826	-0,1	6,4%	5,5%
Other Middle East countries	10.561	22.712	115,1	0,2%	0,4%
Other Asian countries	15.413	36.274	135,3	0,3%	0,6%
III. AFRICA	14.256	20.624	44,7	0,3%	0,3%
Egypt-Sudan	3.543	3.086	-12,9	0,1%	0,0%
South Africa	5.928	10.710	80,7	0,1%	0,2%
Other African countries	4.784	6.827	42,7	0,1%	0,1%
IV. AMERICA	250.411	308.462	23,2	4,6%	4,9%
Argentina	12.259	14.847	21,1	0,2%	0,2%
Brazil	12.421	13.395	7,8	0,2%	0,2%
Mexico	6.525	10.502	61,0	0,1%	0,2%
United States	166.072	202.678	22,0	3,1%	3,2%
Canada	41.213	54.411	32,0	0,8%	0,9%
Other American countries	11.923	12.630	5,9	0,2%	0,2%
V. OCEANIA	36.126	48.754	35,0	0,7%	0,8%
Australia	31.679	44.449	40,3	0,6%	0,7%
Other Oceanian countries	4.447	4.305	-3,2	0,1%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents	5.420.831	6.264.037	15,6	100,0%	100,0%
ARRIVALS	5.420.831	6.264.037	15,6	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-June 2014

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY ⁽²⁾	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	3.694.925	493	188.483	1.466.539	5.350.441
EUROPEAN UNION	3.060.863	24	173.916	466.135	3.700.938
<i>Austria</i>	64.051	0	3.240	960	68.251
<i>Belgium</i>	122.385	0	1.711	0	124.096
<i>Bulgaria</i>	6.906	0	45.933	321.209	374.048
<i>France</i>	401.872	0	9.082	1.098	412.052
<i>Germany</i>	654.498	18	28.406	30.902	713.823
<i>Denmark</i>	49.487	0	706	0	50.194
<i>Estonia</i>	9.752	0	253	716	10.722
<i>United Kingdom</i>	688.722	0	6.880	0	695.602
<i>Ireland</i>	21.263	0	314	0	21.577
<i>Spain</i>	37.087	0	2.211	0	39.298
<i>Italy</i>	137.850	0	44.836	0	182.686
<i>Croatia ⁽¹⁾</i>	6.550	0	797	0	7.348
<i>Cyprus</i>	193.446	0	1.205	0	194.651
<i>Latvia</i>	8.239	0	0	1.481	9.720
<i>Lithuania</i>	12.666	0	1.336	891	14.892
<i>Luxembourg</i>	4.573	0	86	0	4.659
<i>Malta</i>	691	0	253	0	945
<i>Netherlands</i>	215.312	0	3.674	517	219.503
<i>Hungary</i>	6.302	0	3.460	557	10.319
<i>Poland</i>	115.439	0	3.214	14.267	132.920
<i>Portugal</i>	5.093	0	126	0	5.219
<i>Romania</i>	28.597	4	12.728	90.330	131.658
<i>Slovakia</i>	3.649	0	392	0	4.041
<i>Slovenia</i>	2.717	0	1.134	0	3.851
<i>Sweden</i>	122.961	0	105	215	123.281
<i>Czech Republic</i>	82.379	3	1.748	2.994	87.123
<i>Finland</i>	58.374	0	86	0	58.460
<i>Albania</i>	8.816	0	364	228.755	237.935
<i>Switzerland</i>	97.299	0	6.648	0	103.948
<i>Norway</i>	89.236	0	477	0	89.713
<i>Iceland</i>	1.364	0	0	0	1.364
<i>Russia</i>	372.341	0	2.369	7.740	382.451
<i>Serbia</i>	13.469	156	1.070	164.807	179.502
Other European countries	51.538	313	3.638	599.101	654.590
II. ASIA	214.576	0	22.732	298.448	535.756
<i>Japan</i>	12.490	0	677	0	13.167
<i>Iran</i>	560	0	0	0	560
<i>Israel</i>	73.305	0	0	0	73.305
<i>China</i>	24.376	0	692	0	25.068
<i>Lebanon-Syria</i>	11.723	0	0	0	11.723
<i>S.Korea</i>	7.121	0	0	0	7.121
<i>Turkey</i>	28.944	0	20.115	296.766	345.826
Other Middle East countries	23.179	0	0	0	23.179
Other Asian countries	32.879	0	1.247	1.682	35.808
III. AFRICA	20.624	0	0	0	20.624
<i>Egypt-Sudan</i>	3.086	0	0	0	3.086
<i>South Africa</i>	10.710	0	0	0	10.710
Other African countries	6.827	0	0	0	6.827
IV. AMERICA	300.910	0	7.552	0	308.462
<i>Argentina</i>	13.924	0	923	0	14.847
<i>Brazil</i>	13.395	0	0	0	13.395
<i>Mexico</i>	10.502	0	0	0	10.502
<i>United States</i>	197.917	0	4.761	0	202.678
<i>Canada</i>	52.796	0	1.615	0	54.411
Other American countries	12.376	0	253	0	12.630
V. OCEANIA	46.871	0	1.882	0	48.754
<i>Australia</i>	43.645	0	804	0	44.449
Other Oceanian countries	3.227	0	1.078	0	4.305
TOTAL ARRIVALS	4.277.906	493	220.650	1.764.987	6.264.037

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⁾ 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".

⁽²⁾ From May 2014 onwards, the railway connection of Greece with foreign countries was re-established, therefore the data are not comparable with the data of the corresponding semester of the year 2013.

Table 3: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by means of transport and entry station: January- June 2014

Station of entrance		Jan - June		% change	% share	
		2013	2014	2014/2013	2013	2014
I. AIR		3.638.277	4.277.906	17,6%	67,1%	68,3%
	1 Athens	1.023.131	1.293.566	26,4%	18,9%	20,7%
	2 Zakynthos	83.665	101.019	20,7%	1,5%	1,6%
	3 Iraklio	662.969	728.627	9,9%	12,2%	11,6%
	4 Thessaloniki	305.621	344.690	12,8%	5,6%	5,5%
	5 Kerkyra	229.274	259.421	13,1%	4,2%	4,1%
	6 Kos	237.330	257.446	8,5%	4,4%	4,1%
	7 Rodos	481.739	536.216	11,3%	8,9%	8,6%
	8 Santorini	42.113	50.891	20,8%	0,8%	0,8%
	9 Chiania	226.770	241.155	6,3%	4,2%	3,8%
	10 Other stations	345.664	464.876	34,5%	6,4%	7,4%
II. RAILWAY ⁽¹⁾		0	493	-	0,0%	0,0%
	1 Promachon (Serres) ⁽²⁾	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	2 Railway stations (non-sampled)	0	493	-	0,0%	0,0%
III. SEA		233.985	220.650	-5,7%	4,3%	3,5%
	1 Igoumenitsa	111.617	119.092	6,7%	2,1%	1,9%
	2 Kerkyra ⁽²⁾	0	0	-	0,0%	0,0%
	3 Patra	61.704	77.222	25,1%	1,1%	1,2%
	4 Other stations	60.665	24.336	-59,9%	1,1%	0,4%
IV. ROAD		1.548.569	1.764.987	14,0%	28,6%	28,2%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	402.676	409.453	1,7%	7,4%	6,5%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	141.835	118.794	-16,2%	2,6%	1,9%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	197.187	157.999	-19,9%	3,6%	2,5%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	211.646	246.172	16,3%	3,9%	3,9%
	5 Road stations non-sample	595.225	832.570	39,9%	11,0%	13,3%
TOTAL STATIONS		5.420.831	6.264.037	15,6%	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⁾ From May 2014 onwards, the railway connection of Greece with foreign countries was re-established, therefore the data are not comparable with the data of the corresponding semester of the year 2013.

⁽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 "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 - June 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.