



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENTS ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: January - September 2014

According to the Frontier Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period January-September of 2014, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 22,2%, as compared with the corresponding period of the year 2013.

More precisely, arrivals from Europe, which accounts for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (89,0%), registered an increase of 22,6% in January-September 2014 as compared with the corresponding period of 2013, while arrivals from the Member States of the European Union recorded an increase of 23,0%. More specifically, a significant increase in arrivals was observed from the majority of the European Countries. There was a significant increase in arrivals, in absolute values, from Bulgaria (99,0%), France (26,9%), United Kingdom (14,5%), Romania (95,6%), Serbia (28,2%), Poland (51,4%) and Germany (7,1%), while a decrease of arrivals was observed only by certain European countries, which is not significant (Table 1). The largest decrease of arrivals, in absolute values, observed in the cases of Russia (-4,0%) and Sweden (-7,4%). An increase of arrivals was also recorded from the other continents. Significant increase of arrivals, in absolute values, recorded from Asia, with a large contribution of arrivals from Turkey (4,2%) and from America with a large contribution from USA (2,6%).

As regards to the contribution of arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals, for the European countries, came from Germany (10,7%), United Kingdom (9,5%), France (6,9%), Russia (6,1%) and Bulgaria (5,4%). (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 (13,9%) followed by the airports of Iraklion with (11,9%) and Rodos with (9,0%). The main points of entry which account for the biggest percentage of traffic, by road, are Evzoni (10,2%) and Promahonas (5,9%) (Table 3).

Detailed data for the period January-September 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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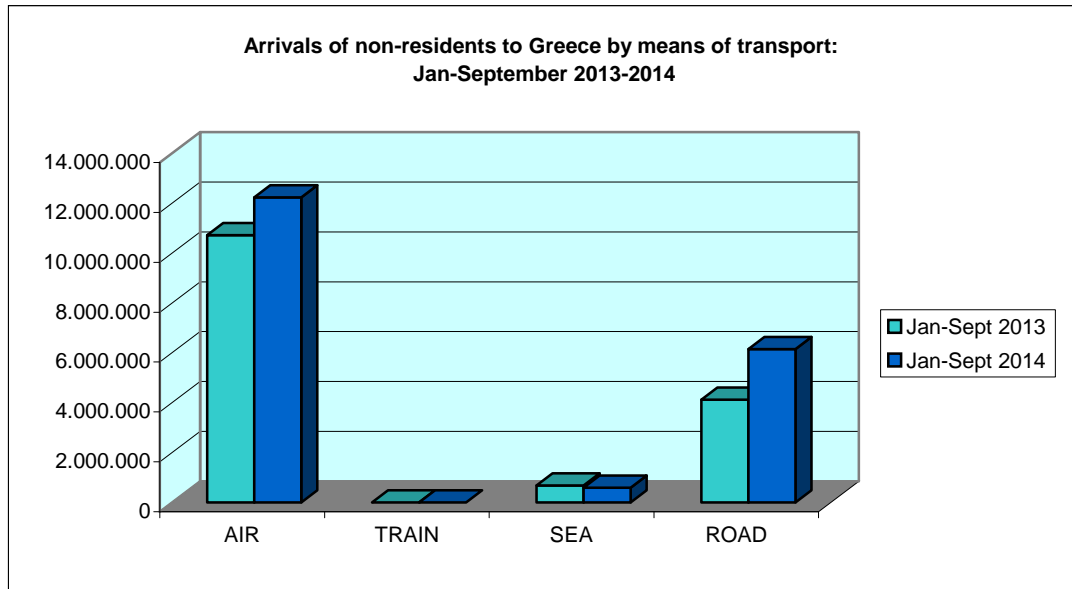
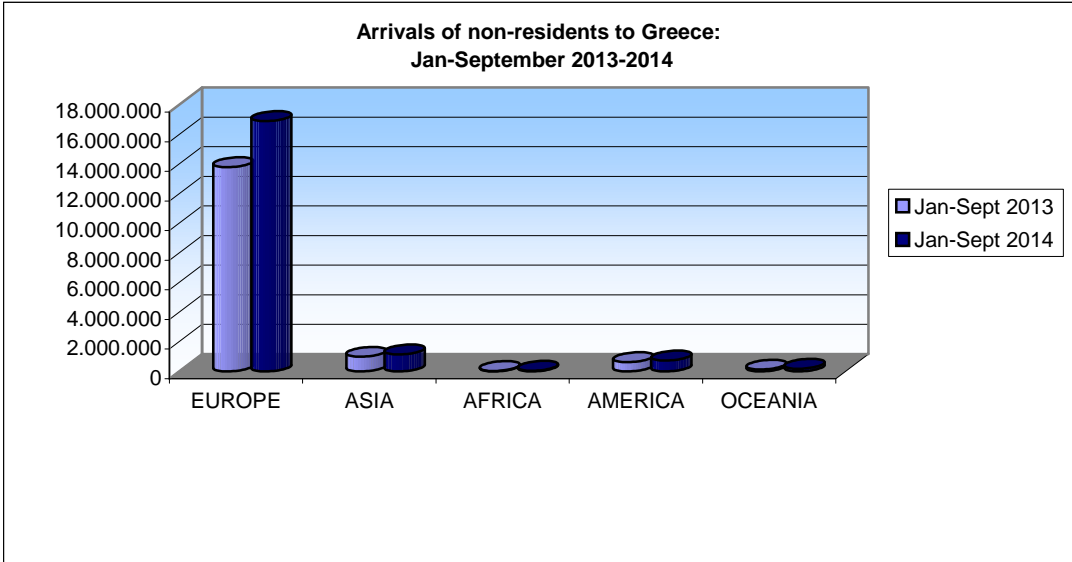


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-September 2014

Analysis by country of residence	Jan-September		% change	% share	
	2013	2014	2014/2013	2013	2014
I. EUROPE	13.783.529	16.896.305	22,6	88,7%	89,0%
EUROPEAN UNION	9.110.706	11.205.393	23,0	58,7%	59,0%
Austria	219.466	252.321	15,0	1,4%	1,3%
Belgium	314.523	379.301	20,6	2,0%	2,0%
Bulgaria	518.139	1.031.126	99,0	3,3%	5,4%
France	1.037.041	1.315.563	26,9	6,7%	6,9%
Germany	1.890.420	2.025.542	7,1	12,2%	10,7%
Denmark	181.485	212.984	17,4	1,2%	1,1%
Estonia	6.653	26.612	300,0	0,0%	0,1%
United Kingdom	1.578.128	1.807.368	14,5	10,2%	9,5%
Ireland	39.038	62.391	59,8	0,3%	0,3%
Spain	80.755	108.053	33,8	0,5%	0,6%
Italy	889.083	986.904	11,0	5,7%	5,2%
Croatia ⁽¹⁾	3.686	16.341	-	-	0,1%
Cyprus	315.778	361.234	14,4	2,0%	1,9%
Latvia	17.980	27.218	51,4	0,1%	0,1%
Lithuania	25.853	53.811	108,1	0,2%	0,3%
Luxembourg	18.117	16.719	-7,7	0,1%	0,1%
Malta	1.064	3.567	235,2	0,0%	0,0%
Netherlands	520.113	569.748	9,5	3,3%	3,0%
Hungary	75.281	79.543	5,7	0,5%	0,4%
Poland	361.677	547.689	51,4	2,3%	2,9%
Portugal	12.142	10.572	-12,9	0,1%	0,1%
Romania	233.489	456.791	95,6	1,5%	2,4%
Slovakia	45.231	59.974	32,6	0,3%	0,3%
Slovenia	18.335	26.603	45,1	0,1%	0,1%
Sweden	331.815	307.360	-7,4	2,1%	1,6%
Czech Republic	263.026	321.630	22,3	1,7%	1,7%
Finland	112.388	138.431	23,2	0,7%	0,7%
Albania	384.936	383.885	-0,3	2,5%	2,0%
Switzerland	294.546	302.861	2,8	1,9%	1,6%
Norway	236.115	235.900	-0,1	1,5%	1,2%
Iceland	1.120	3.528	214,9	0,0%	0,0%
Russia	1.212.649	1.163.687	-4,0	7,8%	6,1%
Serbia	745.472	955.538	28,2	4,8%	5,0%
Other European countries	1.797.985	2.645.513	47,1	11,6%	13,9%
II. ASIA	982.054	1.142.203	16,3	6,3%	6,0%
Japan	9.370	17.878	90,8	0,1%	0,1%
Iran	2.362	560	-76,3	0,0%	0,0%
Israel	187.606	157.440	-16,1	1,2%	0,8%
China	17.953	37.196	107,2	0,1%	0,2%
Lebanon-Syria	26.334	24.990	-5,1	0,2%	0,1%
S.Korea	5.175	11.949	130,9	0,0%	0,1%
Turkey	675.802	789.544	16,8	4,4%	4,2%
Other Middle East countries	22.436	35.686	59,1	0,1%	0,2%
Other Asian countries	35.016	66.960	91,2	0,2%	0,4%
III. AFRICA	26.604	37.916	42,5	0,2%	0,2%
Egypt-Sudan	3.916	5.302	35,4	0,0%	0,0%
South Africa	14.518	21.161	45,8	0,1%	0,1%
Other African countries	8.170	11.454	40,2	0,1%	0,1%
IV. AMERICA	624.335	732.074	17,3	4,0%	3,9%
Argentina	21.926	28.493	29,9	0,1%	0,2%
Brazil	23.265	42.532	82,8	0,1%	0,2%
Mexico	15.585	17.521	12,4	0,1%	0,1%
United States	376.148	486.783	29,4	2,4%	2,6%
Canada	163.451	120.419	-26,3	1,1%	0,6%
Other American countries	23.960	36.327	51,6	0,2%	0,2%
V. OCEANIA	117.386	178.463	52,0	0,8%	0,9%
Australia	105.167	160.529	52,6	0,7%	0,8%
Other Oceanian countries	12.219	17.933	46,8	0,1%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents	15.533.907	18.986.962	22,2	100,0%	100,0%
ARRIVALS	15.533.907	18.986.962	22,2	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-September 2014

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY ⁽²⁾	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	10.915.462	5.768	540.444	5.434.630	16.896.305
EUROPEAN UNION	9.069.735	1.283	494.981	1.639.395	11.205.393
<i>Austria</i>	237.073	7	9.937	5.305	252.321
<i>Belgium</i>	373.141	0	6.160	0	379.301
<i>Bulgaria</i>	12.732	575	65.514	952.306	1.031.126
<i>France</i>	1.278.219	0	36.246	1.098	1.315.563
<i>Germany</i>	1.692.087	368	87.483	245.604	2.025.542
<i>Denmark</i>	205.366	10	1.526	6.082	212.984
<i>Estonia</i>	25.643	0	253	716	26.612
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.784.654	15	13.286	9.413	1.807.368
<i>Ireland</i>	61.853	0	537	0	62.391
<i>Spain</i>	103.918	0	4.135	0	108.053
<i>Italy</i>	775.862	0	211.042	0	986.904
<i>Croatia ⁽¹⁾</i>	10.410	7	1.631	4.293	16.341
<i>Cyprus</i>	357.798	2	1.440	1.994	361.234
<i>Latvia</i>	21.994	3	235	4.985	27.218
<i>Lithuania</i>	51.584	0	1.336	891	53.811
<i>Luxembourg</i>	16.634	0	86	0	16.719
<i>Malta</i>	3.314	0	253	0	3.567
<i>Netherlands</i>	557.383	0	9.886	2.479	569.748
<i>Hungary</i>	69.240	5	5.816	4.482	79.543
<i>Poland</i>	515.336	11	6.225	26.117	547.689
<i>Portugal</i>	9.670	0	902	0	10.572
<i>Romania</i>	76.396	265	19.467	360.663	456.791
<i>Slovakia</i>	57.550	0	2.423	0	59.974
<i>Slovenia</i>	23.086	0	3.517	0	26.603
<i>Sweden</i>	301.046	7	1.799	4.508	307.360
<i>Czech Republic</i>	309.523	8	3.640	8.459	321.630
<i>Finland</i>	138.225	0	206	0	138.431
Albania	14.845	7	801	368.232	383.885
Switzerland	273.225	0	29.636	0	302.861
Norway	235.190	0	710	0	235.900
Iceland	3.528	0	0	0	3.528
Russia	1.122.513	24	7.554	33.596	1.163.687
Serbia	25.712	1.284	1.252	927.290	955.538
Other European countries	170.714	3.172	5.509	2.466.118	2.645.513
II. ASIA	394.180	15	35.053	712.956	1.142.203
Japan	17.201	0	677	0	17.878
Iran	560	0	0	0	560
Israel	153.673	3	0	3.764	157.440
China	36.504	0	692	0	37.196
Lebanon-Syria	24.799	0	192	0	24.990
S.Korea	11.575	0	375	0	11.949
Turkey	57.588	5	30.860	701.091	789.544
Other Middle East countries	36.152	0	0	0	36.152
Other Asian countries	56.130	6	2.257	8.101	66.494
III. AFRICA	37.082	0	835	0	37.916
Egypt-Sudan	5.302	0	0	0	5.302
South Africa	21.161	0	0	0	21.161
Other African countries	10.619	0	835	0	11.454
IV. AMERICA	717.043	2	13.438	1.593	732.074
Argentina	27.031	0	1.461	0	28.493
Brazil	41.192	0	1.340	0	42.532
Mexico	17.129	0	392	0	17.521
United States	477.910	2	7.278	1.593	486.783
Canada	118.082	0	2.338	0	120.419
Other American countries	35.699	0	628	0	36.327
V. OCEANIA	172.402	0	6.060	0	178.463
Australia	156.052	0	4.477	0	160.529
Other Oceanian countries	16.350	0	1.583	0	17.933
TOTAL ARRIVALS	12.236.169	5.785	595.829	6.149.179	18.986.961

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- September 2014

Station of entrance		Jan - September		% change	% share	
		2013	2014	2014/2013	2013	2014
I. AIR		10.724.239	12.236.169	14,1%	69,0%	64,4%
	1 Athens	2.114.694	2.640.882	24,9%	13,6%	13,9%
	2 Zakynthos	424.309	502.730	18,5%	2,7%	2,6%
	3 Iraklio	2.157.364	2.254.138	4,5%	13,9%	11,9%
	4 Thessaloniki	764.866	876.611	14,6%	4,9%	4,6%
	5 Kerkyra	835.982	961.881	15,1%	5,4%	5,1%
	6 Kos	816.772	887.983	8,7%	5,3%	4,7%
	7 Rodos	1.587.863	1.712.804	7,9%	10,2%	9,0%
	8 Santorini	217.284	274.442	26,3%	1,4%	1,4%
	9 Chiania	715.276	771.838	7,9%	4,6%	4,1%
	10 Other stations	1.089.830	1.352.860	24,1%	7,0%	7,1%
II. RAILWAY ⁽¹⁾		0	5.785	-	-	0,0%
	1 Promachon (Serres) ⁽²⁾	0	0	-	-	-
	2 Railway stations (non-sampled)	0	5.785	-	-	0,0%
III. SEA		685.438	595.829	-13,1%	4,4%	3,1%
	1 Igoumenitsa	315.575	322.393	2,2%	2,0%	1,7%
	2 Kerkyra	21.069	22.398	6,3%	0,1%	0,1%
	3 Patra	167.549	182.601	9,0%	1,1%	1,0%
	4 Other stations	181.246	68.438	-62,2%	1,2%	0,4%
IV. ROAD		4.124.230	6.149.179	49,1%	26,5%	32,4%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	1.764.980	1.935.457	9,7%	11,4%	10,2%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	224.873	200.951	-10,6%	1,4%	1,1%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	439.743	416.942	-5,2%	2,8%	2,2%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	448.026	1.121.353	150,3%	2,9%	5,9%
	5 Road stations non-sample	1.246.608	2.474.475	98,5%	8,0%	13,0%
TOTAL STATIONS		15.533.907	18.986.961	22,2%	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 - September 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.