



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

NON-RESIDENTS ARRIVALS FROM ABROAD: January - June 2015

According to the Frontier Statistical Survey conducted by the Bank of Greece, in the period January-June of 2015, arrivals of non-residents from abroad increased by 20,8%, compared with the corresponding period of the year 2014.

More specifically, arrivals from Europe, which accounts for the majority of arrivals of non-residents to Greece (86,1%), registered an increase of 21,8% in January-June 2015 compared with the corresponding period of 2014, while arrivals from EU Member States recorded an increase of 32,4%. As regards European countries a significant increase, in absolute values, is observed in arrivals from Bulgaria (149,5%), Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) (37,8%), Germany (23,5%), United Kingdom (18,0%), Italy (64,6%), Romania (62,3%), Poland (41,4%) and France (12,5%), while a decrease, in absolute values, is recorded in arrivals from Russia (-60,6%). Regarding non-European countries, a significant increase, in absolute values, is recorded in arrivals from USA (41,6%) and Turkey (21,0%) (Table 1).

As regards the contribution of arrivals by country of origin, the largest number of arrivals, for the European countries, came from Bulgaria (12,3%), Germany (11,7%), United Kingdom (10,8%), FYROM (10,5%), France (6,1%) and Italy (4,0%) (Table 1).

As regards the means of transport and the point of entry, during the aforementioned time period, it is observed that most of the arrivals are by road and by air. The main points of entry which account for the biggest percentage of traffic, by road, are Promahonas (9,0%) and Evzoni (7,2%). As far as the arrivals by air are concerned, the airport of Athens holds the first place with (21,4%) followed by the airports of Iraklio (9,1%) and Rodos (6,7%) (Table 3).

Detailed data for the period January-June of the years 2015 and 2014, 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

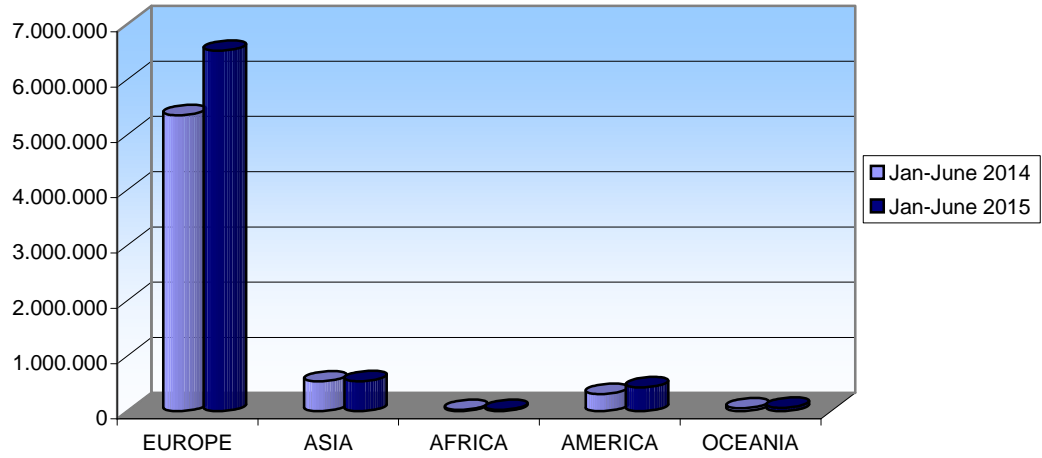
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**Arrivals of non-residents to Greece:
January - June 2014-2015**



**Arrivals of non-residents to Greece by means of transport:
January - June 2014-2015**

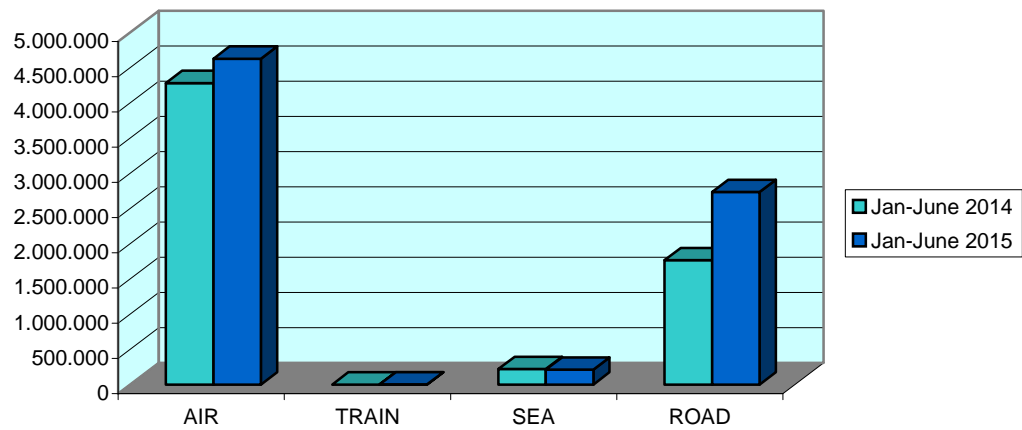


Table 1: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence: January-June 2015

Analysis by country of residence	Jan-June		% change	% share	
	2014	2015	2015/2014	2014	2015
I. EUROPE	5.350.441	6.516.275	21,8	85,4%	86,1%
EUROPEAN UNION	3.700.938	4.899.542	32,4	59,1%	64,8%
<i>Austria</i>	68.251	85.738	25,6	1,1%	1,1%
<i>Belgium</i>	124.096	119.053	-4,1	2,0%	1,6%
<i>Bulgaria</i>	374.048	933.263	149,5	6,0%	12,3%
<i>France</i>	412.052	463.479	12,5	6,6%	6,1%
<i>Germany</i>	713.823	881.501	23,5	11,4%	11,7%
<i>Denmark</i>	50.194	57.356	14,3	0,8%	0,8%
<i>Estonia</i>	10.722	7.831	-27,0	0,2%	0,1%
<i>United Kingdom</i>	695.602	820.498	18,0	11,1%	10,8%
<i>Ireland</i>	21.577	25.599	18,6	0,3%	0,3%
<i>Spain</i>	39.298	26.723	-32,0	0,6%	0,4%
<i>Italy</i>	182.686	300.725	64,6	2,9%	4,0%
<i>Croatia</i>	7.348	8.002	8,9	0,1%	0,1%
<i>Cyprus</i>	194.651	190.094	-2,3	3,1%	2,5%
<i>Latvia</i>	9.720	15.196	56,3	0,2%	0,2%
<i>Lithuania</i>	14.892	21.019	41,1	0,2%	0,3%
<i>Luxemburg</i>	4.659	5.617	20,6	0,1%	0,1%
<i>Malta</i>	945	3.973	320,6	0,0%	0,1%
<i>Netherlands</i>	219.503	230.813	5,2	3,5%	3,1%
<i>Hungary</i>	10.319	28.830	179,4	0,2%	0,4%
<i>Poland</i>	132.920	187.987	41,4	2,1%	2,5%
<i>Portugal</i>	5.219	7.161	37,2	0,1%	0,1%
<i>Romania</i>	131.658	213.637	62,3	2,1%	2,8%
<i>Slovakia</i>	4.041	29.634	633,3	0,1%	0,4%
<i>Slovenia</i>	3.851	4.249	10,3	0,1%	0,1%
<i>Sweden</i>	123.281	117.659	-4,6	2,0%	1,6%
<i>Czech Republic</i>	87.123	72.574	-16,7	1,4%	1,0%
<i>Finland</i>	58.460	41.332	-29,3	0,9%	0,5%
<i>Albania</i>	237.935	221.595	-6,9	3,8%	2,9%
<i>Switzerland</i>	103.948	121.378	16,8	1,7%	1,6%
<i>Norway</i>	89.713	61.176	-31,8	1,4%	0,8%
<i>Iceland</i>	1.364	403	-70,5	0,0%	0,0%
<i>FYROM</i>	576.493	794.648	37,8	9,2%	10,5%
<i>Russia</i>	382.451	150.623	-60,6	6,1%	2,0%
<i>Serbia</i>	179.502	167.351	-6,8	2,9%	2,2%
<i>Other European countries</i>	78.096	99.560	27,5	1,2%	1,3%
II. ASIA	535.756	539.528	0,7	8,6%	7,1%
<i>Japan</i>	13.167	3.455	-73,8	0,2%	0,0%
<i>Iran</i>	560	1.094	95,4	0,0%	0,0%
<i>Israel</i>	73.305	34.565	-52,8	1,2%	0,5%
<i>China</i>	25.068	23.950	-4,5	0,4%	0,3%
<i>Lebanon-Syria</i>	11.723	7.048	-39,9	0,2%	0,1%
<i>S.Korea</i>	7.121	3.543	-50,2	0,1%	0,0%
<i>Turkey</i>	345.826	418.597	21,0	5,5%	5,5%
<i>Other Middle East countries</i>	22.712	20.497	-9,8	0,4%	0,3%
<i>Other Asian countries</i>	36.274	26.779	-26,2	0,6%	0,4%
III. AFRICA	20.624	21.883	6,1	0,3%	0,3%
<i>Egypt-Sudan</i>	3.086	9.472	206,9	0,0%	0,1%
<i>South Africa</i>	10.710	8.980	-16,2	0,2%	0,1%
<i>Other African countries</i>	6.827	3.430	-49,8	0,1%	0,0%
IV. AMERICA	308.462	428.647	39,0	4,9%	5,7%
<i>Argentina</i>	14.847	15.872	6,9	0,2%	0,2%
<i>Brazil</i>	13.395	29.109	117,3	0,2%	0,4%
<i>Mexico</i>	10.502	7.388	-29,7	0,2%	0,1%
<i>United States</i>	202.678	286.923	41,6	3,2%	3,8%
<i>Canada</i>	54.411	72.704	33,6	0,9%	1,0%
<i>Other American countries</i>	12.630	16.652	31,8	0,2%	0,2%
V. OCEANIA	48.754	59.364	21,8	0,8%	0,8%
<i>Australia</i>	44.449	48.809	9,8	0,7%	0,6%
<i>Other Oceanian countries</i>	4.305	10.556	145,2	0,1%	0,1%
VI. Arrivals of non-residents	6.264.037	7.565.697	20,8	100,0%	100,0%
ARRIVALS	6.264.037	7.565.697	20,8	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Frontier Survey of the Bank of Greece.

Table 2: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by country of residence and means of transport: January-June 2015

Analysis by country of residence	AIR	RAILWAY ⁽¹⁾	SEA	ROAD	TOTAL
I. EUROPE	3.952.154	1.907	184.480	2.377.733	6.516.275
EUROPEAN UNION	3.572.674	963	170.648	1.155.257	4.899.542
Austria	80.785	0	4.065	888	85.738
Belgium	118.211	0	842	0	119.053
Bulgaria	7.267	742	51.354	873.900	933.263
France	449.110	0	11.493	2.876	463.479
Germany	821.162	25	25.250	35.063	881.501
Denmark	57.104	0	252	0	57.356
Estonia	6.757	0	0	1.074	7.831
United Kingdom	813.091	0	6.133	1.274	820.498
Ireland	25.086	0	512	0	25.599
Spain	25.280	0	1.442	0	26.723
Italy	256.232	0	43.352	1.142	300.725
Croatia	6.960	0	1.042	0	8.002
Cyprus	189.488	0	606	0	190.094
Latvia	11.083	3	581	3.529	15.196
Lithuania	17.751	0	2.194	1.074	21.019
Luxemburg	5.568	0	49	0	5.617
Malta	3.820	0	153	0	3.973
Netherlands	224.492	0	6.322	0	230.813
Hungary	12.800	11	2.232	13.787	28.830
Poland	148.564	32	1.861	37.530	187.987
Portugal	3.518	3	88	3.552	7.161
Romania	35.813	141	8.592	169.090	213.637
Slovakia	25.883	2	174	3.575	29.634
Slovenia	1.371	0	1.447	1.431	4.249
Sweden	117.420	0	239	0	117.659
Czech Republic	66.726	4	374	5.471	72.574
Finland	41.332	0	0	0	41.332
Albania	5.678	2	547	215.369	221.595
Switzerland	113.837	0	7.540	0	121.378
Norway	61.057	0	119	0	61.176
Iceland	403	0	0	0	403
FYROM	262	749	1.826	791.810	794.648
Russia	138.452	9	991	11.172	150.623
Serbia	8.514	144	969	157.723	167.351
Other European countries	51.277	41	1.840	46.402	99.560
II. ASIA	167.551	3	19.547	352.427	539.528
Japan	3.269	0	185	0	3.455
Iran	554	0	540	0	1.094
Israel	34.565	0	0	0	34.565
China	23.950	0	0	0	23.950
Lebanon-Syria	7.048	0	0	0	7.048
S.Korea	3.390	0	153	0	3.543
Turkey	48.707	3	18.474	351.414	418.597
Other Middle East countries	20.497	0	0	0	20.497
Other Asian countries	25.571	0	194	1.014	26.779
III. AFRICA	21.255	0	628	0	21.883
Egypt-Sudan	9.277	0	196	0	9.472
South Africa	8.547	0	433	0	8.980
Other African countries	3.430	0	0	0	3.430
IV. AMERICA	423.660	0	3.913	1.074	428.647
Argentina	15.872	0	0	0	15.872
Brazil	29.109	0	0	0	29.109
Mexico	7.388	0	185	0	7.573
United States	283.616	0	3.307	0	286.923
Canada	72.098	0	421	0	72.518
Other American countries	15.578	0	0	1.074	16.652
V. OCEANIA	57.852	0	1.512	0	59.364
Australia	47.778	0	1.031	0	48.809
Other Oceanian countries	10.075	0	481	0	10.556
TOTAL ARRIVALS	4.622.472	1.910	210.080	2.731.234	7.565.697

Source: Frondier Survey of the Bank of Greece.

⁽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 2014.

Table 3: Arrivals of non-residents from abroad by means of transport and entry station: January- June 2015

Station of entrance		Jan - June		% change	% share	
		2014	2015	2015/2014	2014	2015
I. AIR		4.277.906	4.622.472	8,1%	68,3%	61,1%
	1 Athens	1.293.566	1.620.264	25,3%	20,7%	21,4%
	2 Zakynthos	101.019	105.819	4,8%	1,6%	1,4%
	3 Iraklio	728.627	689.043	-5,4%	11,6%	9,1%
	4 Thessaloniki	344.690	371.751	7,9%	5,5%	4,9%
	5 Kerkyra	259.421	268.879	3,6%	4,1%	3,6%
	6 Kos	257.446	253.268	-1,6%	4,1%	3,3%
	7 Rodos	536.216	506.607	-5,5%	8,6%	6,7%
	8 Santorini	50.891	57.269	12,5%	0,8%	0,8%
	9 Chiania	241.155	250.946	4,1%	3,8%	3,3%
	10 Other stations	464.876	498.626	7,3%	7,4%	6,6%
II. RAILWAY ⁽¹⁾		493	1.910	-	-	0,0%
	1 Promachon (Serres) ⁽²⁾	0	0	-	-	-
	2 Railway stations (non-sampled)	493	1.910	-	-	0,0%
III. SEA		220.650	210.080	-4,8%	3,5%	2,8%
	1 Igoumenitsa	119.092	108.148	-9,2%	1,9%	1,4%
	2 Kerkyra	0	0	-	-	-
	3 Patra	77.222	79.059	2,4%	1,2%	1,0%
	4 Other stations	24.336	22.874	-6,0%	0,4%	0,3%
IV. ROAD		1.764.987	2.731.234	54,7%	28,2%	36,1%
	1 Evzoni (Kilkis)	409.453	545.575	33,2%	6,5%	7,2%
	2 Kakavia (Ioannina)	118.794	122.157	2,8%	1,9%	1,6%
	3 Kipi (Evros)	157.999	194.619	23,2%	2,5%	2,6%
	4 Promachon (Serres)	246.172	680.764	176,5%	3,9%	9,0%
	5 Road stations non-sample	832.570	1.188.119	42,7%	13,3%	15,7%
TOTAL STATIONS		6.264.037	7.565.697	20,8%	100,0%	100,0%

Source: Frondier Survey of the Bank of Greece.

⁽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 2014.

⁽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 2015

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.