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PRESS RELEASE

QUALITATIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF RESIDENT TOURISTS: 2014 **(Vacation Survey)**

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces, for the first time, the data of the 2014 Vacation Survey (Survey on the qualitative characteristics of resident tourists). On the basis of the survey data, in 2014, a total of 6.334.275 trips were recorded and the number of persons who made a trip (resident tourists) amounted to 3.644.262, thus recording an increase of 13.4% and 15.9%, respectively, compared with 2013. In 2014, the total of nights spent amounts to 63.977.192 and expenditure to EUR 1.834.964.490, recording an increase of 8.8 % and 7.2%, respectively (Table 1).

As regards the purpose of the aforementioned trips, 94.3% of the trips were made for personal reasons and 5.7 % were business trips (Table 1).

The comparison between the data of 2014 and the corresponding data of 2013 shows that there is a significant increase in the number of personal trips (15.7%), as well as in the number of persons travelling for personal purposes (17.3 %) (Tables 3 and 2). A similar upward trend is also observed in the duration of personal trips, as the number of nights spent increased by 8.4 % and the relevant expenditure by 11.3%, (Tables 4 and 5). The most significant increase, in absolute values, in the number of trips and persons travelling for personal purposes, 18.3% and 20.7% respectively, is recorded for the age group 25-44 years (Tables 3 and 2). Similarly, for this specific age group the number of nights spent increased by 10.8% (Table 4) and the relevant expenditure by 14.0% (Table 5).

Short trips with 1-3 overnight stays and 4-7 overnight stays increased, in absolute values, by 18.9 % and 24.0%, respectively, and so did the corresponding expenditure by 30.0% and 23.4%, respectively, while, no significant change is observed as regards trips with 8 overnight nights or more (Tables 3 and 5). On the contrary, a significant increase, in absolute values, is recorded in the total of nights spent for trips with 4-7 overnight stays and 15 overnight stays or more, as the corresponding number of nights spent increased by 23.3% and 4.8%, respectively (Table 4).

Most of the personal trips were by car and by sea. An increase is recorded for trips made by all transportation means except for trips made by rail (Table 3).

On the basis of available survey data, it is observed that, for the majority of personal trips in 2014, the type of accommodation used was non-rented accommodation, i.e., for 63.9% of the total trips and 78.9% of the total nights spent. The change observed, in absolute values, in 2014 compared with 2013, amounts to 9.7% and 6.2% for trips and nights spent, respectively, in non-rented accommodation. Trips whose type of accommodation is hotels and similar accommodation establishments recorded, in absolute values, a lower increase of 27.5%, and an increase of 19.6% in nights spent (Tables 3 and 4).

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Table 1. Number of resident tourists, trips, nights spent and expenditure, by purpose of trip: 2013 and 2014

	Persons			Trips			Nights spent			Expenditure (in Euro)		
	2013	2014	Change %	2013	2014	Change %	2013	2014	Change %	2013	2014	Change %
Total	3.143.453	3.644.262	15,9	5.584.274	6.334.275	13,4	58.781.458	63.977.192	8,8	1.711.078.182	1.834.964.490	7,2
<i>Business trips</i>	185.001	187.163	1,2	421.674	362.742	-14,0	3.218.029	3.729.818	15,9	200.216.967	152.920.079	-23,6
<i>Personal trips</i>	3.050.958	3.578.609	17,3	5.162.600	5.971.533	15,7	55.563.429	60.247.374	8,4	1.510.861.215	1.682.044.411	11,3
Rest, pleasure, vacation	2.302.366	2.710.326	17,7	3.661.780	4.003.512	9,3	39.079.274	43.611.096	11,6	1.129.404.857	1.217.711.848	7,8
Visiting relatives and friends	800.670	945.968	18,1	1.191.905	1.537.071	29,0	14.369.300	12.973.436	-9,7	299.415.287	347.484.987	16,1
Other trips (pilgrim, health care, etc.)	200.929	321.510	60,0	308.915	430.950	39,5	2.114.855	3.662.842	73,2	82.041.071	116.847.576	42,4

Notes

Data refer to personal trips with 1 or more overnight stays and persons aged 15 years and over.

The data on persons do not sum up in the total, as a person may have more than one trip in a year, for different purposes each time.

Diagram 1

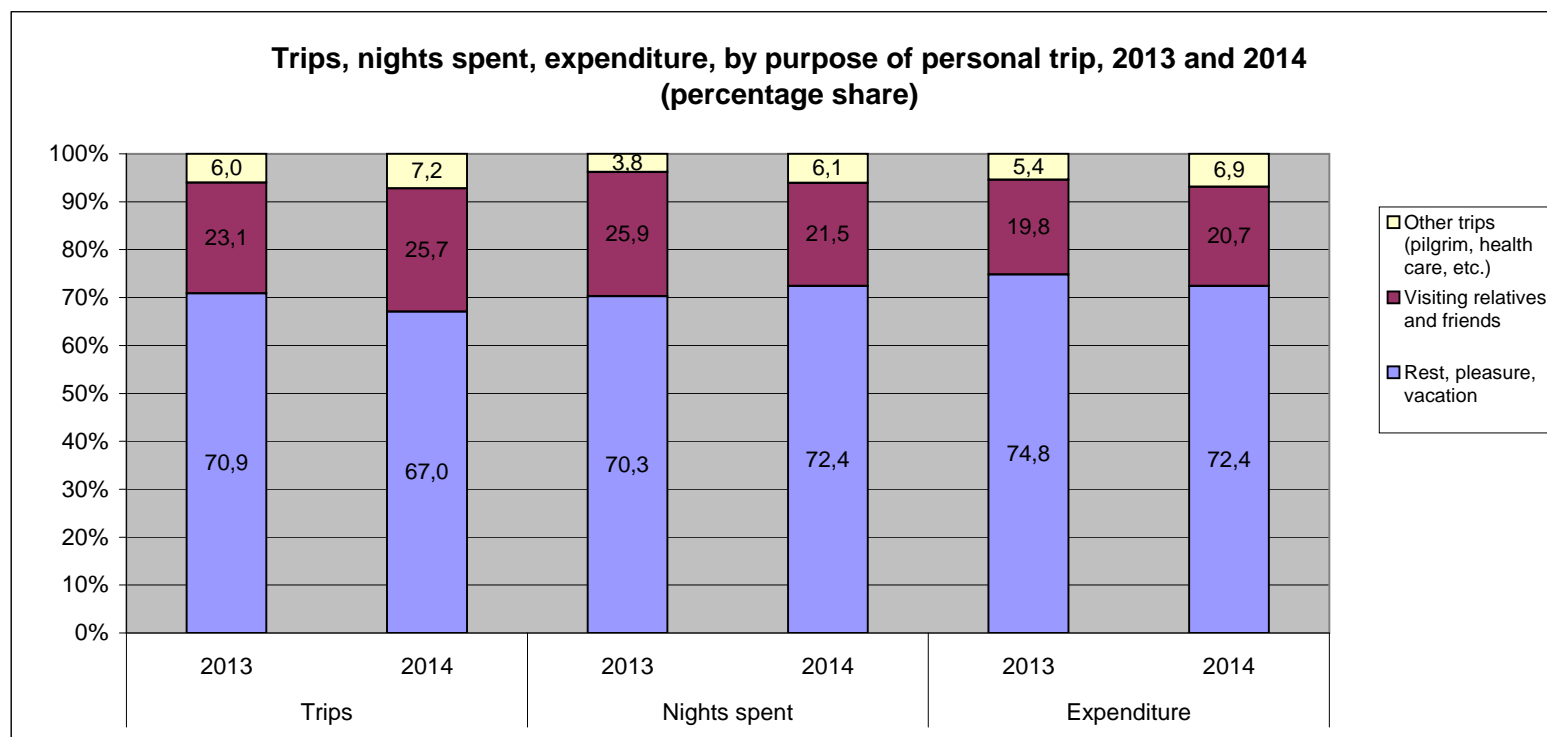


Table 2. Number of resident tourists traveling for personal reasons: 2013 and 2014

	2013	2014	Change %
Total	3.050.958	3.578.609	17,3
Males	1.468.616	1.711.490	16,5
Females	1.582.342	1.867.119	18,0
Age groups			
15 - 24	402.894	470.253	16,7
25 - 44	1.187.767	1.433.416	20,7
45 - 64	1.008.611	1.153.302	14,3
65 and over	451.686	521.638	15,5

Note: Data refer to personal trips with 1 or more overnight stays and persons aged 15 years and over.

Diagram 1

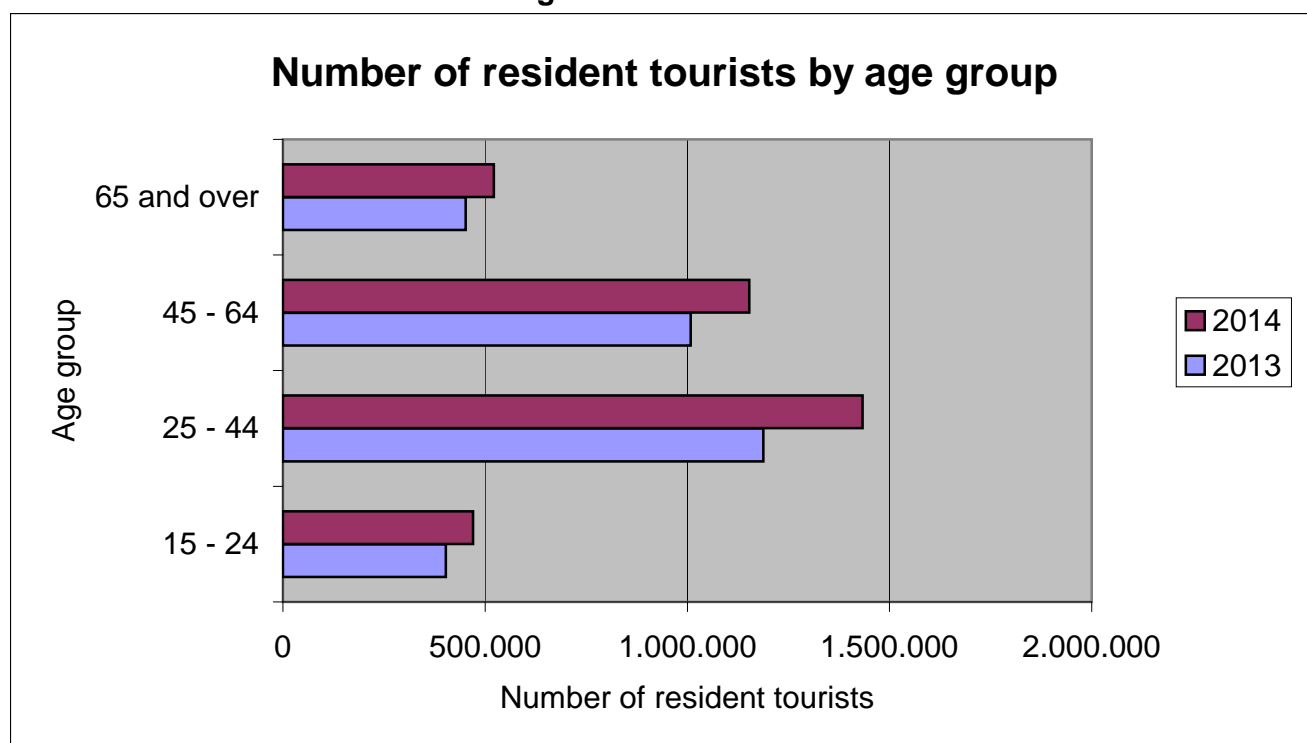


Table 3. Number of personal trips of resident tourists : 2013 and 2014

	2013	2014	Change %
Total	5.162.600	5.971.533	15,7
Males	2.473.939	2.817.543	13,9
Females	2.688.661	3.153.990	17,3
Age groups			
15 - 24	655.211	782.292	19,4
25 - 44	1.973.086	2.333.565	18,3
45 - 64	1.765.369	2.002.788	13,4
65 and over	768.934	852.888	10,9
Number of nights spent			
1 - 3	1.425.074	1.693.818	18,9
4 - 7	1.718.192	2.129.777	24,0
8 - 14	978.410	1.003.930	2,6
15 and over	1.040.924	1.144.008	9,9
Means of transport			
By air	449.664	653.653	45,4
By sea	925.213	1.081.431	16,9
By car	3.711.021	4.160.917	12,1
By rail	76.702	75.532	-1,5
Way of booking			
Direct booking	4.855.730	5.609.530	15,5
Via travel agency, tour operator	306.870	362.003	18,0
Type accommodation			
Hotels and similar establishments	1.060.204	1.351.584	27,5
Rooms for rent and rented houses	493.658	618.917	25,4
Other collective and special accommodation	131.885	185.918	41,0
Non-rented accommodation (summer house, accommodation provided for free by relatives, friends, other owner-occupied accommodation)	3.476.853	3.815.114	9,7

Note: Data refer to personal trips with 1 or more overnight stays and persons aged 15 years and over.

Table 4. Number of nights spent of resident tourists traveling for personal reasons: 2013 and 2014

	2013	2014	Change %
Total	55.563.429	60.247.374	8,4
Males	25.786.222	27.914.960	8,3
Females	29.777.207	32.332.414	8,6
Age groups			
15 - 24	7.014.672	7.278.762	3,8
25 - 44	17.340.571	19.212.707	10,8
45 - 64	17.136.762	18.743.284	9,4
65 and over	14.071.424	15.012.621	6,7
Number of nights spent			
1 - 3 nights	3.087.937	3.832.493	24,1
4 - 7 nights	9.390.997	11.575.409	23,3
8 - 14 nights	9.997.448	10.172.658	1,8
15 and over	33.087.047	34.666.814	4,8
Means of transport			
By air	5.805.551	6.826.283	17,6
By sea	11.198.120	12.642.265	12,9
By car	37.792.864	40.092.883	6,1
By rail	766.894	685.943	-10,6
Way of booking			
Direct booking	53.016.184	58.488.118	10,3
Via travel agency, tour operator	2.547.245	1.759.256	-30,9
Type of accommodation			
Hotels and similar establishments	5.792.043	6.928.610	19,6
Rooms for rent and rented houses	3.820.888	4.207.196	10,1
Other collective and special accommodation	1.194.262	1.580.690	32,4
Non-rented accommodation (summer house, accommodation provided for free by relatives, friends, other owner-occupied accommodation)	44.756.236	47.530.878	6,2

Note: Data refer to personal trips with 1 or more overnight stays and persons aged 15 years and over.

**Table 5. Expenditure of resident tourists traveling for personal reasons:
2013 and 2014**

	2013	2014	Change %
Total	1.510.861.215	1.682.044.411	11,3
Males	723.436.926	795.684.222	10,0
Females	787.424.289	886.360.189	12,6
Age groups			
15 - 24	172.182.849	185.948.416	8,0
25 - 44	586.267.427	668.453.983	14,0
45 - 64	492.814.565	556.450.219	12,9
65 and over	259.596.374	271.191.793	4,5
Number of nights spent			
1 - 3	190.061.372	247.018.523	30,0
4 - 7	489.859.052	604.348.756	23,4
8 - 14	370.260.044	354.487.892	-4,3
15 and over	460.680.747	476.189.240	3,4
Means of transport			
By air	295.517.856	366.806.547	24,1
By sea	352.795.891	369.238.499	4,7
By car	849.848.529	931.246.770	9,6
By rail	12.698.939	14.752.595	16,2
Way of booking			
Direct booking	1.361.585.347	1.525.493.164	12,0
Via travel agency, tour operator	149.275.868	156.551.247	4,9
Type of accommodation			
Hotels and similar establishments	453.368.087	525.225.014	15,8
Rooms for rent and rented houses	179.572.027	200.429.345	11,6
Other collective and special accommodation	43.155.608	53.882.135	24,9
Non-rented accommodation (summer house, accommodation provided for free by relatives, friends, other owner-occupied accommodation)	834.765.493	902.507.917	8,1

Note: Data refer to personal trips with 1 or more overnight stays and persons aged 15 years and over.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Survey on the Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists (Vacation Survey)	The Survey on the Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists (Vacation Survey) is conducted, on a yearly basis, with the aim of collecting data on the characteristics of resident tourists, tourist expenditure and contribution of several socio-demographic groups in tourism and their behavior. These data are necessary for drawing national and European policy in the tourism sector. The collected data refer to the number of tourists, trips, nights spent and expenditure incurred during these trips. Furthermore, data are collected on the characteristics of resident tourists e.g., age, sex, and on the characteristics of every trip, such as purpose of the trip, destination, transportation means, type of accommodation establishment, etc.
Legal Frame	The survey is conducted by virtue of Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council.
Statistical units	The statistical units are the households.
Coverage	Greece total.
Dissemination of results	The data are posted on a yearly basis (since 2004) on the website of ELSTAT and from 2015 onwards the data are also published in a relevant Press Release.
Reference period	2014.
Definitions	<p><u>Resident</u>: any natural person, irrespective of citizenship, normally residing or having the intention to reside for a period of at least 12 months in Greece.</p> <p><u>Personal trips</u>: trips whose purpose is vacation, leisure, rest, recreation, visiting friends and relatives, beyond the traveler's daily routine and activities, as well as other trips for pilgrim or health care purposes, etc.</p> <p><u>Business trips</u>: refer to trips related to the traveler's work, beyond his daily routine and activities.</p> <p><u>Expenditure</u>: refer to expenditure related to the trip and incurred before and during the trip by the tourists. These expenditure refer to money spent on accommodation, food, transport, and other trip-related expenses e.g., for cultural, recreational activities, purchase of clothing, footwear, purchase of consumables and big-value goods, purchase of food, beverages, drinks, presents, souvenirs, etc.</p> <p><u>Hotels and similar establishments</u>: they include hotels, motels, suites, bungalows, etc.</p> <p><u>Other collective and special accommodation establishments</u>: they include therapeutic centres, camping grounds, conference centres, passenger transport means such as cruise ships, rented campsites and other rented collective accommodation establishments, such as mountain guesthouses, youth hostels, etc.</p> <p><u>Non-rented accommodation establishments</u>: they include auxiliary summer houses, accommodation provided without charge by relatives and friends and other owner-occupied accommodation provided for free (e.g., caravans, tents, etc.).</p>
Methodology	The Survey on the Qualitative Characteristics of Resident Tourists (Vacation Survey) is a sampling survey, which from 2012 onwards is conducted on a yearly basis (quarterly for the period 2004-2011). The survey unit is the household and its members. The data derive from a special questionnaire filled in by each household. The information on the statistical units derives from the sample of the Labour Force Survey, which is a sub-sample of households of this survey and therefore the sample is selected on the basis of the two-stages stratified sampling method with primary sampling unit the city block and secondary survey unit the household and its members.
References	More information on the survey can be found on the web page of ELSTAT, www.statistics.gr , at the link: "Statistical Themes > Tourism > Tourism > Characteristics of resident tourists (Vacation Survey)".