



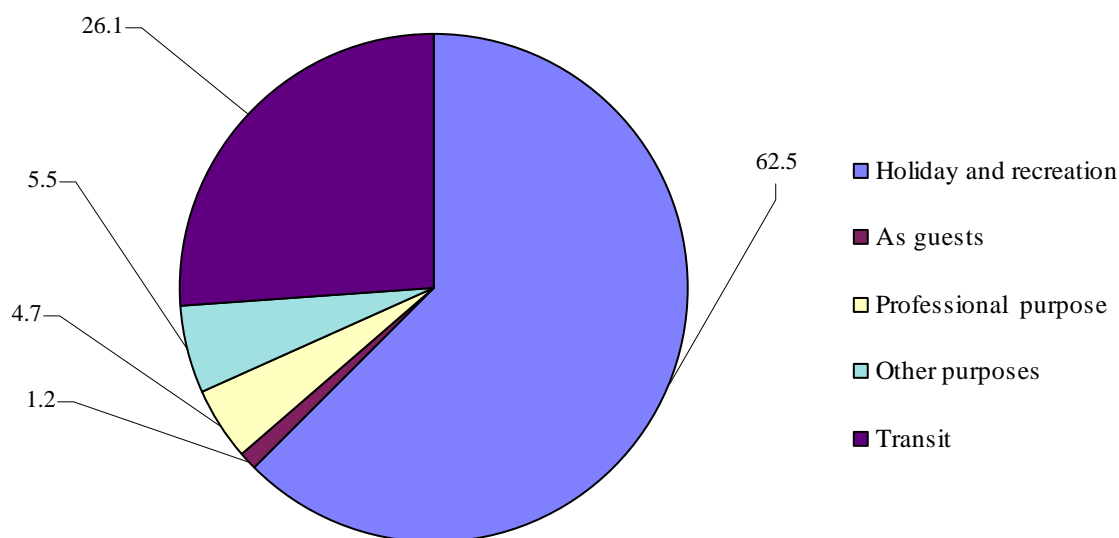
## Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria and trips of Bulgarian residents in abroad in August 2009

In August 2009, the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria was 1 434.6 thousand or 10.1% less than the number of trips in the same month of 2008 (Annex 1).

In respect to EU Member States less visits were observed for citizens of Malta - by 91.3%, Sweden - by 72.5%, Denmark - by 65.0%, Slovakia - by 60.0% and Finland - by 51.4%. At the same time, a significant increase of arrivals was registered from Spain - by 96.2%, Czech Republic - by 61.1%, Italy - by 60.8%, Greece - by 60.0%, France - by 52.3%, Slovenia - by 33.6%.

In the group of "Other European countries"<sup>1</sup> the highest drop was observed in the number of visits of citizens from Turkey - by 60.0%, Norway - by 36.1% and Serbia - by 33.5%. At the same time the increase in the number of visits of citizens from Israel was seen - by 37.2% and from Canada - by 12.0%.

In August 2009, arrivals with holiday and recreation purpose composed the greatest share of the total number of foreigners' visits to Bulgaria - 62.5%, followed by transit purpose - 26.1%, other purposes - 5.5%, professional purpose - 4.7%, and visits as guests - 1.2%.



### Structure of arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad by purpose of visit in August 2009 - %

In August 2009 the number of arrivals of visitors with holiday and recreation purpose was 896.8 thousand, and the largest number of tourists came from Germany - 175.5 thousand, Romania - 81.4 thousand, Poland - 78.6 thousand and Czech Republic - 67.6 thousand. Within arrivals with transit purpose, the highest number of arrivals reported the Romanian citizens which were 77.0 thousand, followed by the citizens of Turkey - 76.5 thousand, Germany - 48.0 thousand, Austria - 23.5 thousand.

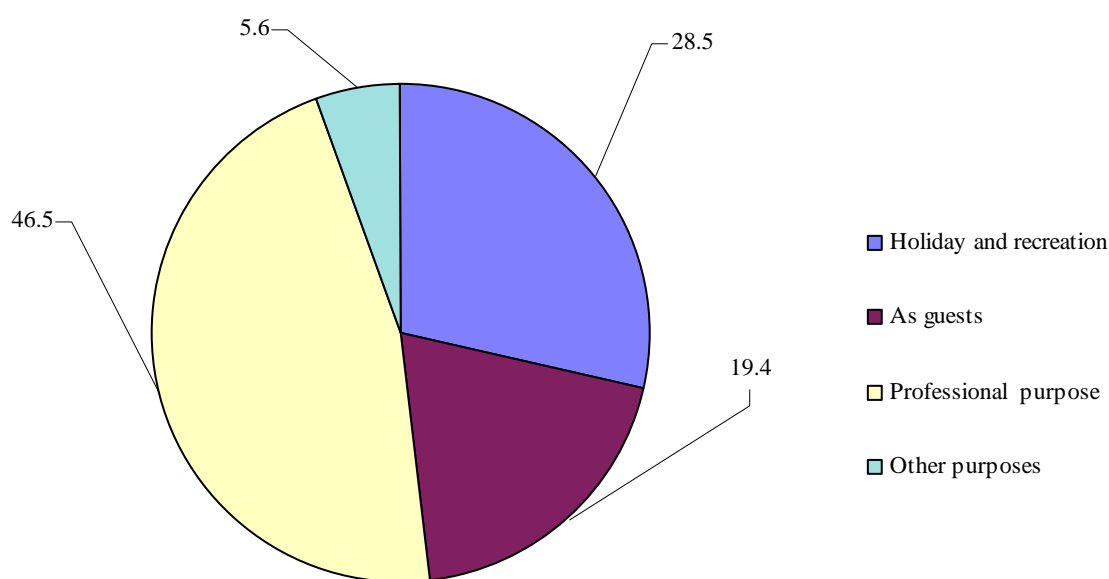
The number of the trips of Bulgarian residents in abroad was 547.1 thousand in August 2009, which was 7.7% less than the number of the trips in August 2008 (Annex 2).

As compared to the same month of 2008 an increase in the total number of the trips was

<sup>1</sup> Group of "Other European countries" include countries in Europe outside EU.

registered, namely to: Macedonia - by 24.6%, Greece - by 7.5% and Romania - by 0.4%. At the same time, a decrease was registered in the number of the trips for all other observed countries. The highest decline was observed in the trips to Japan - by 61.4%, Finland - by 57.6%, Sweden - by 56.8%, Czech Republic - by 54.4%, Slovenia - by 50.1%, Italy - by 47.6%, Austria - by 45.5%, followed by, Denmark - by 45.4%, Norway - by 43.1%, Spain - by 42.3%, France - by 40.1%, Netherland - by 39.9%, Malta - by 39.0%, Cyprus - by 38.8%, Israel - by 37.7%.

The highest share of the trips of the Bulgarian citizens travelling abroad had the trips with professional purpose - 46.5%, followed by trips with holiday and recreation purpose - 28.5%, visits as guests - 19.4% and other purposes - 5.6%.



**Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents in abroad by purpose of visit in August 2009 - %**

In August 2009, the Bulgarian residents made 155.9 thousand trips with holiday and recreation purpose mostly to neighboring countries- to Greece - 61.2 thousand, to Serbia - 20.8 thousand, to Romania - 19.4 thousand and to Turkey - 17.5 thousand.

### **Methodological notes**

The statistical data on travel of Bulgarian residents abroad and on visits by foreigners in Bulgaria are obtained on the basis of monthly information received from the Ministry of Interior and from a sample survey of the National Statistical Institute among Bulgarian and foreign citizens passing the border crossing control points.

Data on the number of the trips of the citizens of the European Union are estimates based on the information received from the Ministry of Interior and the airport authorities. Data on the number of third country citizens are obtained directly from the Ministry of Interior.

Data on the purposes of the trips are developed on the basis of the NSI's regular monthly sample survey of passing Bulgarian and foreign citizens through country's border crossing control points.

**ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA BY PURPOSE OF VISIT AND  
BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN IN AUGUST 2009**

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit					VIII 2009 to VIII 2008 %
		Holiday and recreation	As guests	Profesional	Others	Transit	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1434569</b>	<b>896828</b>	<b>17528</b>	<b>67238</b>	<b>79142</b>	<b>373833</b>	<b>-10.1</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>1059677</b>	<b>704578</b>	<b>7443</b>	<b>53438</b>	<b>50461</b>	<b>243757</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
<b>of which :</b>							
Austria	47612	18816	373	4755	171	23497	11.4
Belgium	26514	11021	110	1837	177	13369	-0.7
United Kingdom	47622	39354	710	3674	1287	2597	-31.9
Germany	241061	175445	1087	13247	3277	48005	26.4
Greece	107058	62411	1303	9742	19368	14234	60.0
Denmark	15598	12072	175	346	27	2978	-65.0
Spain	12499	6694	218	1225	1838	2524	96.2
Italy	20089	8783	425	3096	1315	6470	60.8
Cyprus	3088	2821	245	5	13	4	2.1
Malta	58	49	5	0	0	4	-91.3
Netherlands	45897	19481	285	2208	1924	21999	-20.4
Poland	91201	78558	62	858	2699	9024	15.5
Portugal	1772	871	42	1	6	852	-45.4
Romania	179249	81365	885	6908	13062	77029	-16.9
Slovakia	24777	21692	16	5	560	2504	-60.0
Slovenia	5825	4469	3	8	51	1294	33.6
Hungary	31158	26221	120	1192	1684	1941	-6.1
Finland	10337	9120	65	2	0	1150	-51.4
France	48892	36107	857	2930	1916	7082	52.3
Czech Rep.	75299	67614	74	1022	766	5823	61.1
Sweden	8959	7065	297	116	187	1294	-72.5
<b>Other European countries</b>	<b>267534</b>	<b>117886</b>	<b>8535</b>	<b>8888</b>	<b>22334</b>	<b>109891</b>	<b>-38.6</b>
Norway	15665	13989	94	3	3	1576	-36.1
The former Yugoslav Rep.of Macedonia	29752	8152	3741	723	5719	11417	-0.9
Russian Fed.	67444	58713	1885	2768	2403	1675	-2.8
Serbia	27768	13247	158	426	1738	12199	-33.5
Turkey	94224	2886	2352	4078	8460	76448	-60.0
Ukraine	32681	20899	305	890	4011	6576	-4.1
<b>Other countries</b>	<b>36445</b>	<b>34111</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>1059</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>20.9</b>
Israel	25290	24647	49	359	95	140	37.2
Canada	2051	1754	99	63	42	93	12.0
USA	8261	7023	283	525	212	218	-6.9
Japan	843	687	7	112	12	25	-15.5
<b>Rest of the world</b>	<b>70913</b>	<b>40253</b>	<b>1112</b>	<b>3853</b>	<b>5986</b>	<b>19709</b>	<b>24.7</b>

**TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD BY PURPOSE OF VISIT AND BY  
COUNTRY OF DESTINATION IN AUGUST 2009**

(Number)

Country of destination	Total	Purpose of visit				VIII 2009 to VIII 2008 %
		Holiday and recreation	As guests	Professional	Others	
<b>Total</b>	<b>547134</b>	<b>155995</b>	<b>106186</b>	<b>254268</b>	<b>30685</b>	<b>-7.7</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>336012</b>	<b>109493</b>	<b>17700</b>	<b>197488</b>	<b>11331</b>	<b>-10.9</b>
<b>of which :</b>						
Austria	5870	2131	490	2889	360	-45.5
Belgium	4708	1660	578	2023	447	-26.1
United Kingdom	9467	2230	1038	4715	1484	-37.6
Germany	22143	6395	1859	12201	1688	-35.9
Greece	206259	61172	8057	133319	3711	7.5
Denmark	608	167	99	197	145	-45.4
Spain	12812	5529	943	5394	946	-42.3
Italy	8826	4083	559	3546	638	-47.6
Cyprus	1568	379	240	756	193	-38.8
Malta	178	79	17	71	11	-39.0
Netherlands	3458	1334	266	1645	213	-39.9
Poland	2589	951	176	1401	61	-28.3
Portugal	306	193	11	65	37	-4.1
Romania	45763	19442	2415	23665	241	0.4
Slovakia	353	98	33	181	41	-34.5
Slovenia	332	100	13	207	12	-50.1
Hungary	2320	650	293	1158	219	-26.8
Finland	87	16	9	45	17	-57.6
France	4587	1715	248	2195	429	-40.1
Czech Rep.	3008	1023	271	1521	193	-54.4
Sweden	301	72	25	131	73	-56.8
<b>Other European countries</b>	<b>200151</b>	<b>44658</b>	<b>87920</b>	<b>52774</b>	<b>14799</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Norway	394	48	74	72	200	-43.1
FYROM	31960	5838	10298	11006	4818	24.6
Russian Fed.	2535	234	205	1511	585	-15.9
Serbia	37620	20772	1636	14330	882	-0.1
Turkey	126253	17539	75514	25003	8197	-4.1
Ukraine	1389	227	193	852	117	-30.6
<b>Other countries</b>	<b>4837</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>3626</b>	<b>-21.9</b>
Israel	1188	50	42	785	311	-37.7
Canada	789	17	25	22	725	-5.3
USA	2838	67	75	108	2588	-16.4
Japan	22	7	-	13	2	-61.4
<b>Rest of the world</b>	<b>6134</b>	<b>1703</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>3078</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>-26.6</b>