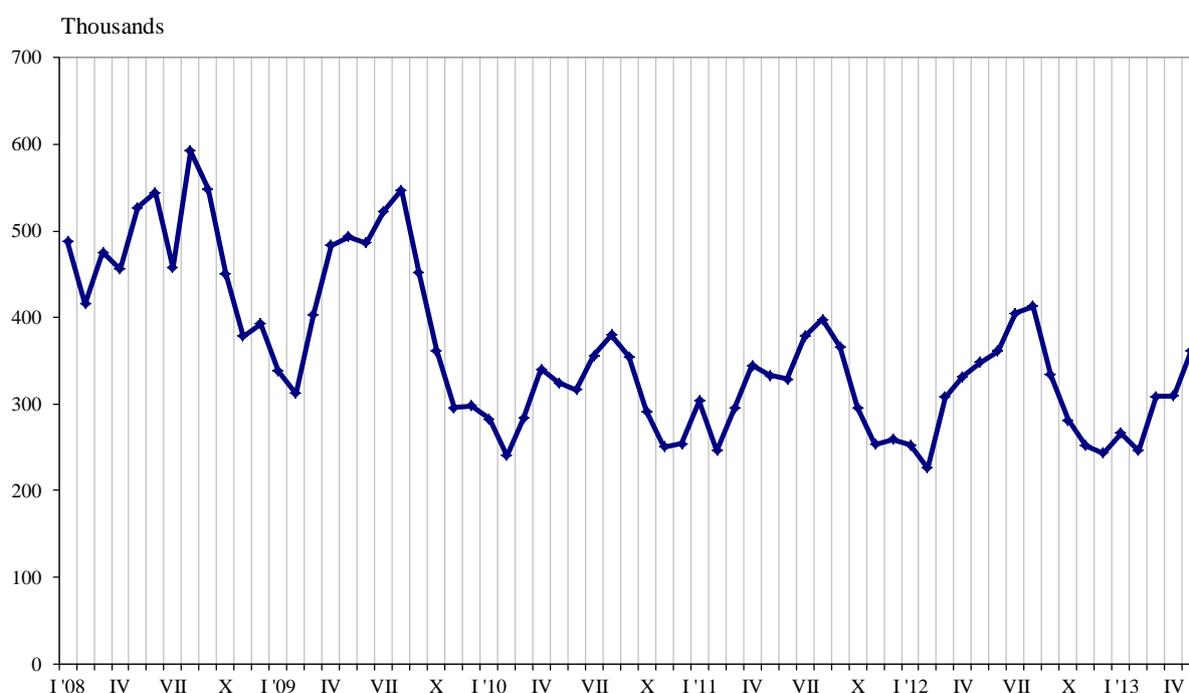




## TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN MAY 2013

In May 2013 the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad was 361.9 thousand or by 3.9% above the registered in May 2012 (Figure 1). In comparison with the same month of the previous year an increase was reported in the total number of the trips of Bulgarian residents to: Russian Federation - by 191.4%, Belgium - by 175.0%, Austria - 117.9%, France - by 91.1%, Italy - by 87.1%, Germany - by 82.9%, and etc. At the same time a decrease was observed in the total number of the trips of Bulgarian residents to: Turkey - by 28.2%, Serbia - by 17.2% FYROM - by 12.5%, and etc. (Annex, Table 1).

**Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months**

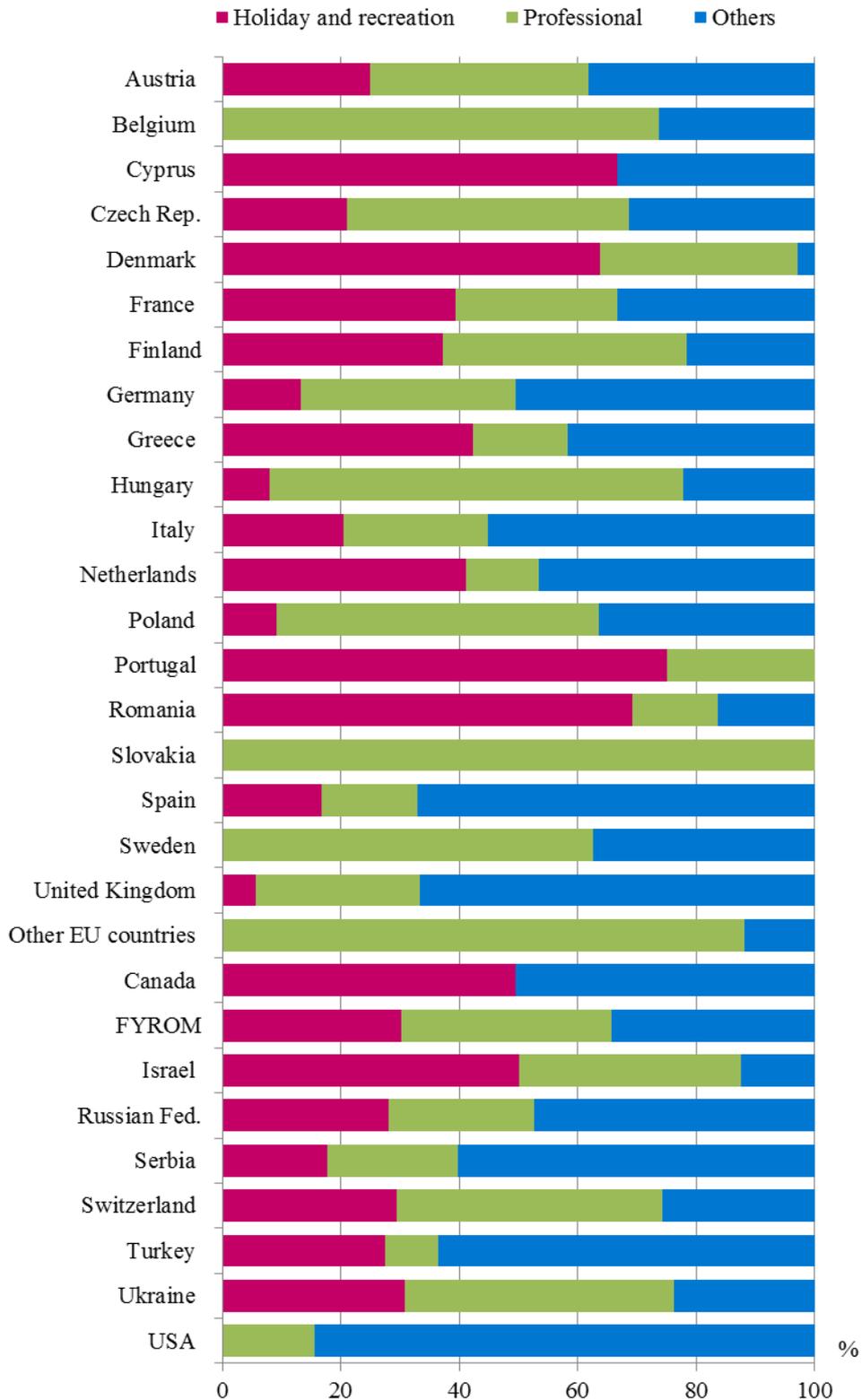


The trips with other purposes (as guest, education and visit the cultural and sport events) composed the greatest share of the total number of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad - 45.7%, followed by the trips with holiday and recreation purposes - 31.8% and with professional purpose - 22.5%. In comparison with May 2012 an increase was observed in the trips with other purposes - by 75.2%, while a decrease was registered in these with professional and with holiday and recreation purposes - by 39.0 and by 4.6% respectively.

In May 2013 the trips with other purposes formed 67.0% from all trips to Spain, 66.7% - to the United Kingdom, 63.6% - to Turkey and 60.3% - to Serbia. Predominated share of the trips to Belgium and Czech Republic was with professional purpose - 73.7 and 47.5% respectively. The trips with holiday and recreation purpose to Romania were 69.1%, to Greece - 42.3% and to France - 39.4% from all trips of Bulgarian residents to these countries (Figure 2).



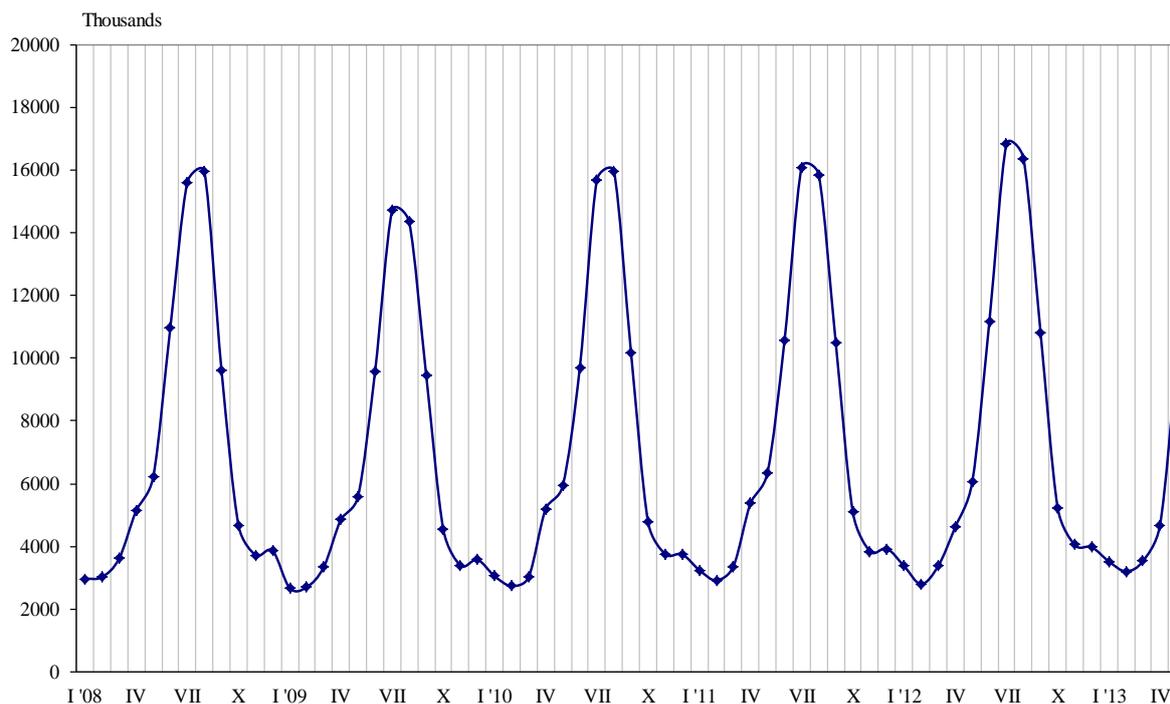
**Figure 2. Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit and by country of destination in May 2013**





In May 2013, **the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria** was 634.8 thousand which was by 4.8% above the level in May 2012 (Figure 3). An increase was registered in the visits with holiday and recreation purposes - by 10.3% as well in the trips with other purposes - by 3.8%, while the professional visits decreased by 7.3%.

**Figure 3. Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria by months**



The visits of the citizens of European Union composed the greatest relative share of the total number of the foreigners visited Bulgaria - 59.2%, (Annex, Table 2) as in comparison with the same month of the previous year they decreased by 1.0%. A decrease was registered in the visits of the citizens from Czech Republic - by 3.7%, Italy - by 3.3%, Romania - by 2.7%, the United Kingdom - by 2.5%, Greece - 1.8% and etc. At the same time a growth was registered in the visits of citizens from Austria - by 13.2%, Germany - by 6.5%, France - by 4.7%, Belgium - by 4.4%, and Spain - by 4.1%.

The visits of foreigners in the group "Other European countries"<sup>1</sup> increased by 17.5% as the highest growth was observed in the visits of citizens of Russian Federation and Ukraine - by 41.0 and by 36.8% respectively.

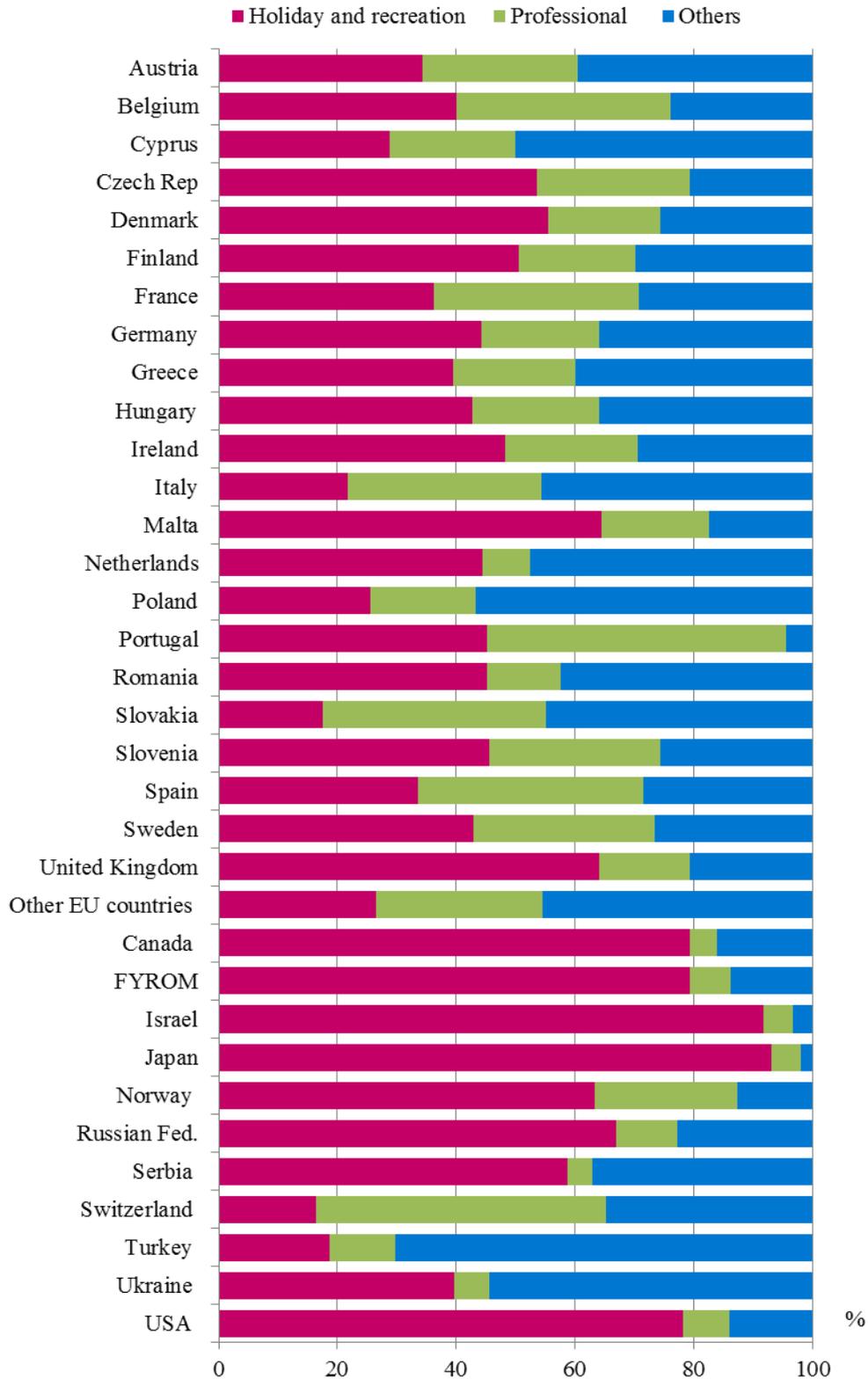
In May 2013 the share of the visits with holiday and recreation purpose predominated (44.9%), followed by these with other purposes (including as guest and passing transit) - 40.7% and with professional purpose - 14.4%.

The visits with holiday and recreation purpose formed 79.3% of the arrivals from FYROM, 67.0% - from Russian Federation, 64.1% - from the United Kingdom, 58.8% - from Serbia and 53.6% - from Czech Republic. The visits with professional purpose were 38.1% of all arrivals from Spain, 34.6% - from France, while with other purpose were 70.2% of the arrivals from Turkey, 54.4% - from Ukraine and 45.5% - from Italy (Figure 4).

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



**Figure 4. Structure of the arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad by purpose of visit and by country of origin in May 2013**





## Methodological notes

The definitions recommended by the World Tourist Organization and Methodological manual for tourism by Eurostat are applied by National Statistical Institute.

In accordance with these definitions **an international tourist** is any person who travels to a country other than his/her permanent residence at least 24 hours but no more than one year and whose main purpose is not doing any activity for payment.

**The purposes of visiting** a country are the following:

- Excursion, holiday or entertainment (visits to cultural or historical sightseeing, sports events and other);
- Visiting friends and relatives;
- Professional purposes (business trips, participation in conferences, congresses, concluding deals, etc.);
- Other (education, cure, etc.) purposes.

Statistical data on the trips of Bulgarian citizens travelling abroad and visits by foreigners in Bulgaria are obtained on the basis of monthly information received from the Ministry of Interior and sample survey of the National Statistical Institute among Bulgarian and foreign citizens passing the border check points.

Data on the number of the trips of the citizens of the European Union are estimated on the basis of the information obtained from the Ministry of Interior and the airport authorities. Data on the number of citizens of “third countries” 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 on the border check points.



Annex

Table 1

**Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purposes of visit  
and country of destination in May 2013**

Country of destination	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number			Change in % compared to May 2012
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others	
<b>Total</b>	<b>361908</b>	<b>115028</b>	<b>81396</b>	<b>165484</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>201859</b>	<b>72251</b>	<b>50059</b>	<b>79549</b>	<b>27.5</b>
Austria	11246	2812	4135	4299	117.9
Belgium	6012	-	4430	1582	175.0
Cyprus	720	480	-	240	-3.1
Czech Rep.	4729	997	2244	1488	116.7
Denmark	784	500	261	23	292.0
Finland	175	65	72	38	821.1
France	9097	3584	2481	3032	91.1
Germany	25223	3325	9145	12753	82.9
Greece	73828	31221	11754	30853	1.8
Hungary	1370	109	956	305	-6.5
Ireland	219	-	219	-	36.0
Italy	12349	2520	3024	6805	87.1
Malta	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	2673	1100	330	1243	-3.2
Poland	2588	235	1412	941	103.8
Portugal	1012	759	253	-	588.4
Romania	33270	23003	4845	5422	17.0
Slovakia	90	-	90	-	3.4
Slovenia	272	-	272	-	46.2
Spain	6151	1027	1000	4124	5.9
Sweden	508	-	318	190	187.0
United Kingdom	9266	514	2574	6178	-1.9
Other EU countries	277	-	244	33	211.2
<b>Other European countries</b>	<b>152114</b>	<b>40707</b>	<b>28632</b>	<b>82775</b>	<b>-18.9</b>
FYROM	36098	10905	12785	12408	-12.5
Norway	896	636	200	60	414.9
Russian Fed.	8212	2304	2015	3893	191.4
Serbia	25676	4531	5664	15481	-17.2
Switzerland	1170	345	524	301	0.5
Turkey	79408	21785	7146	50477	-28.2
Ukraine	654	201	298	155	13.0
<b>Other countries</b>	<b>5304</b>	<b>1001</b>	<b>1220</b>	<b>3083</b>	<b>579.1</b>
Canada	121	60	-	61	426.1
Israel	1881	941	705	235	398.9
USA	3302	-	515	2787	766.7
<b>Rest of the world</b>	<b>2631</b>	<b>1069</b>	<b>1485</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>49.2</b>



Table 2

Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria  
by purpose of visit and by country of origin in May 2013

Country of origin	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number			Change in % compared to May 2012
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others	
<b>Total</b>	<b>634809</b>	<b>284701</b>	<b>91665</b>	<b>258443</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>375628</b>	<b>159581</b>	<b>68544</b>	<b>147503</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
Austria	11132	3819	2916	4397	13.2
Belgium	3845	1540	1389	916	4.4
Cyprus	1893	547	398	948	-4.2
Czech Rep.	4062	2178	1047	837	-3.7
Denmark	2228	1239	419	570	4.8
Finland	1466	741	287	438	-6.3
France	9067	3287	3139	2641	4.7
Germany	33232	14702	6595	11935	6.5
Greece	102105	40360	21082	40663	-1.8
Hungary	5145	2201	1101	1843	1.9
Ireland	1762	849	394	519	-14.1
Italy	8961	1943	2938	4080	-3.3
Malta	254	164	46	44	-11.8
Netherlands	4941	2198	397	2346	3.2
Poland	8998	2299	1598	5101	1.9
Portugal	473	214	238	21	-14.3
Romania	147745	66911	18090	62744	-2.7
Slovakia	2782	487	1049	1246	-17.1
Slovenia	1125	514	324	287	2.7
Spain	3267	1094	1246	927	4.1
Sweden	2460	1054	754	652	-9.0
United Kingdom	16706	10714	2542	3450	-2.5
Other EU countries	1979	526	555	898	-2.6
<b>Other European countries</b>	<b>204508</b>	<b>96772</b>	<b>17904</b>	<b>89832</b>	<b>17.5</b>
FYROM	35516	28170	2477	4869	6.2
Norway	615	389	149	77	8.7
Russian Fed.	38173	25593	3904	8676	41.0
Serbia	35365	20804	1440	13121	16.8
Switzerland	1212	198	594	420	37.1
Turkey	74171	13887	8193	52091	9.8
Ukraine	19456	7731	1147	10578	36.8
<b>Other countries</b>	<b>16049</b>	<b>13605</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>1452</b>	<b>-6.5</b>
Canada	1522	1207	70	245	-4.7
Israel	5758	5289	282	187	-23.3
Japan	1683	1566	84	33	17.4
USA	7086	5543	556	987	6.9
<b>Rest of the world</b>	<b>38624</b>	<b>14743</b>	<b>4225</b>	<b>19656</b>	<b>9.2</b>