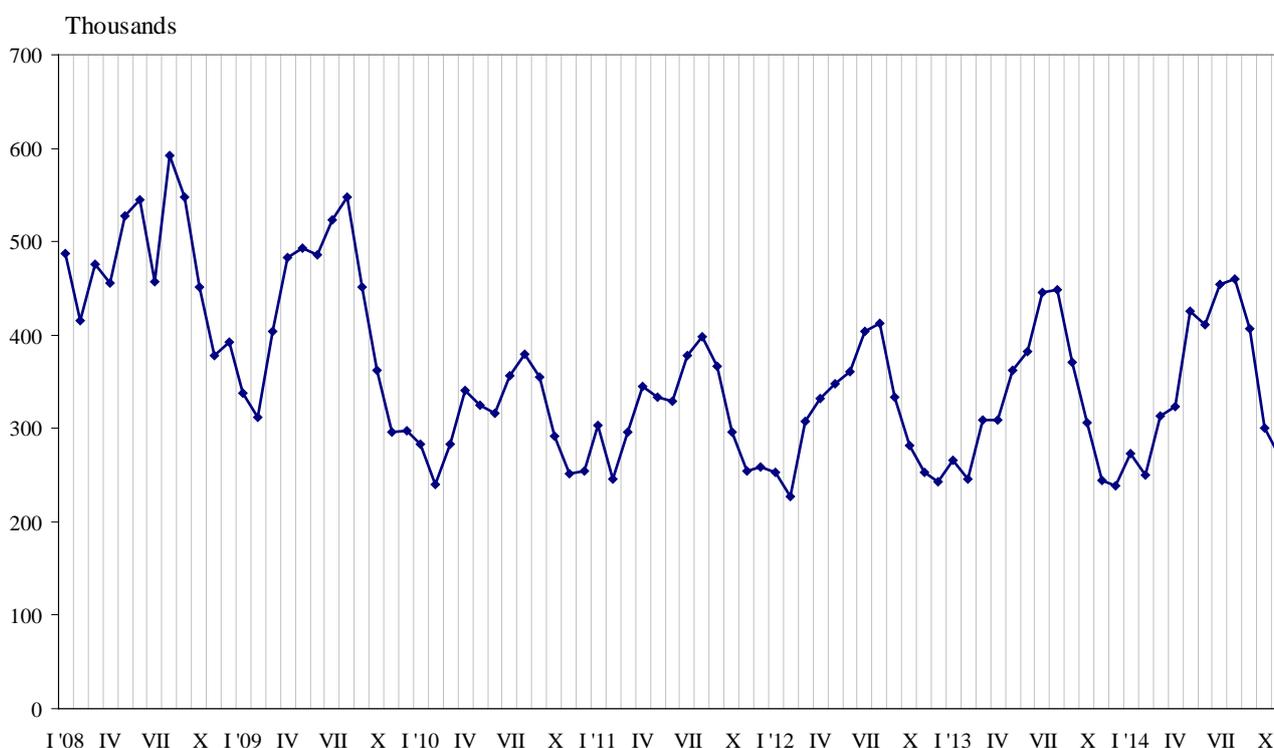




TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN NOVEMBER 2014

In November 2014, **the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad** was 270.8 thousand or by 10.5% above the registered in November 2013 (Figure 1). In comparison with the same month of the previous year an increase was observed in the total number of the trips of Bulgarians to: Italy - by 38.6%, Austria - by 35.3%, Serbia - by 34.3%, the United Kingdom - by 33.0%, Belgium - by 32.4%, France - by 31.6%, Romania - by 16.4%, Turkey - by 10.9% and etc. At the same time a decrease was observed in the total number of the trips of Bulgarians to: Czech Republic - by 7.4%, Russian Federation - by 6.8%, Spain - by 2.5%, Germany - by 2.1%, Greece - by 1.9%, and etc (Annex, Table 1).

Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months

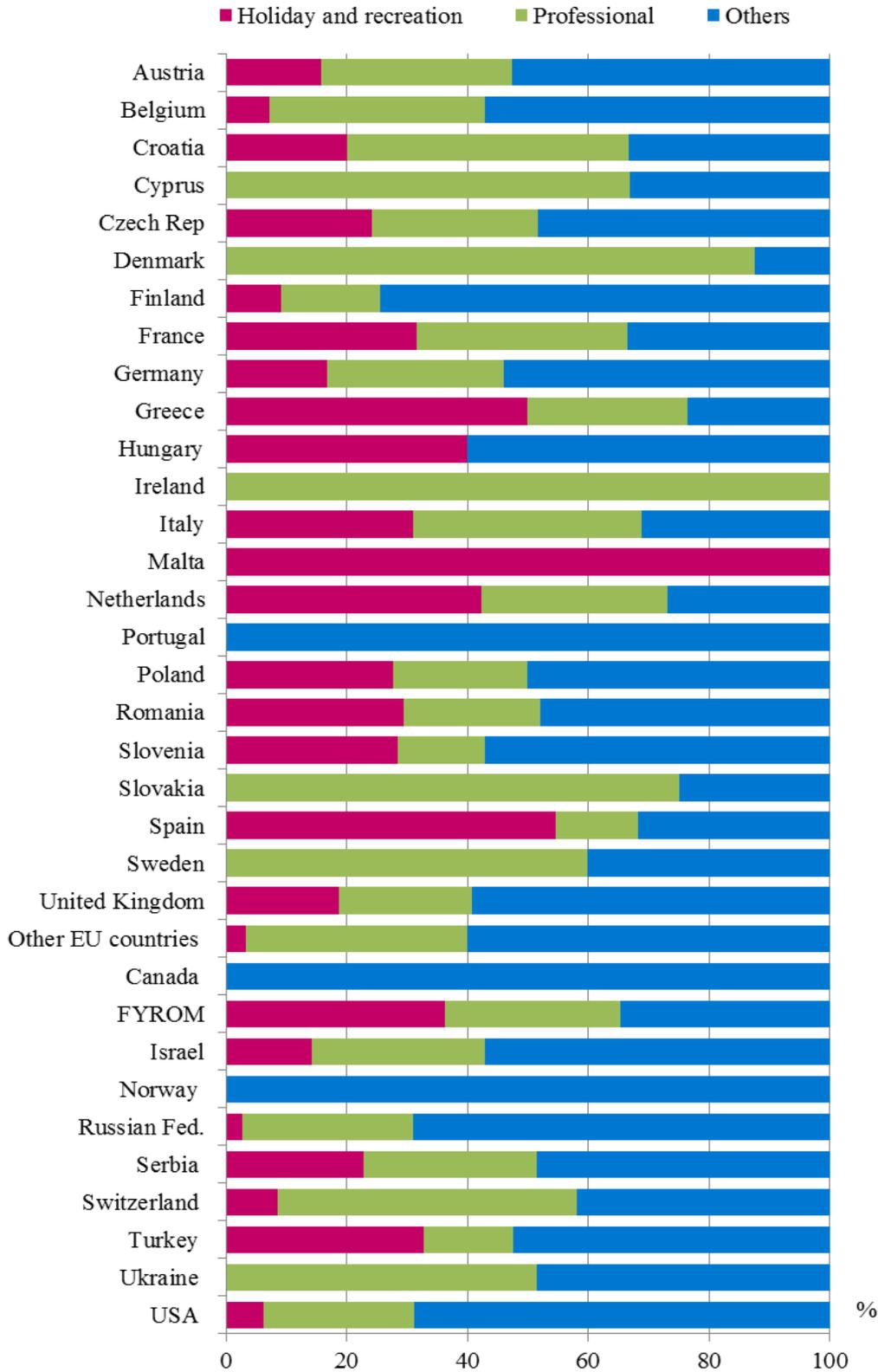


The trips with other purposes (as a guest, education and visit the cultural and sport events) in November 2014 composed the greatest share of the total number of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad - 43.0%, followed by the trips with holiday and recreation purposes - 32.3%, and with professional purpose - 24.7%. In comparison with November 2013 an increase was registered in the trips with holiday and recreation and with professional purpose - by 42.3% and 14.4% respectively, while these with other purposes decreased by 7.0%.

In November 2014, the trips with other purposes formed 69.1% of all trips to Russian Federation and 59.4% to the United Kingdom. The trips to Italy with professional purpose were 37.7%, as these to Spain and Greece with holiday and recreation purpose were 54.5% and 49.9% respectively of all trips of Bulgarian residents to these countries (Figure 2).



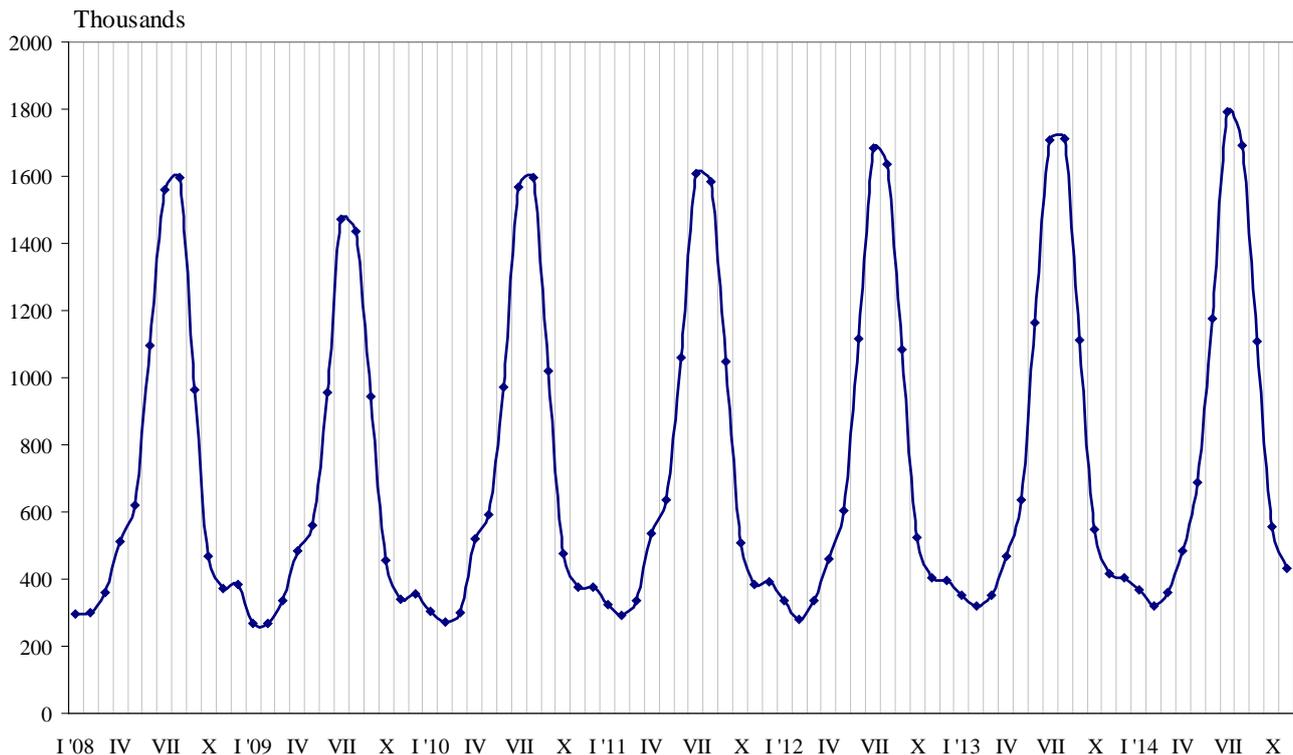
Figure 2. Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit and country of destination in November 2014





In November 2014, **the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria** was 433.2 thousands or by 4.1% above the level of November 2013 (Figure 3). An increase was registered in the trips with professional purpose and with other purposes by 34.6% and 6.8% respectively, while the trips with holiday and recreation purpose decreased by 14.0%.

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



The share of visits of EU citizens was 53.2% of the total number of foreigners' visits to Bulgaria in November 2014 (Annex, Table 2) or by 2.1% more in comparison with the same month of the previous year. An increase was registered in the visits of the citizens of Italy - by 28.1%, France - by 26.3%, the Netherlands - by 25.7%, Spain - by 9.6%, Austria - by 9.1%, Romania - by 8.8%, the United Kingdom - 6.7%, and etc. At the same time decreased the visits from the Germany - by 22.0%, Slovakia - by 15.2%, Greece - by 9.8%, Poland - by 9.6%, and etc.

The visits of foreigners in the group 'Other European countries'¹ increased by 4.5% as the highest growth was observed in the visits of citizens of Serbia - by 11.8%.

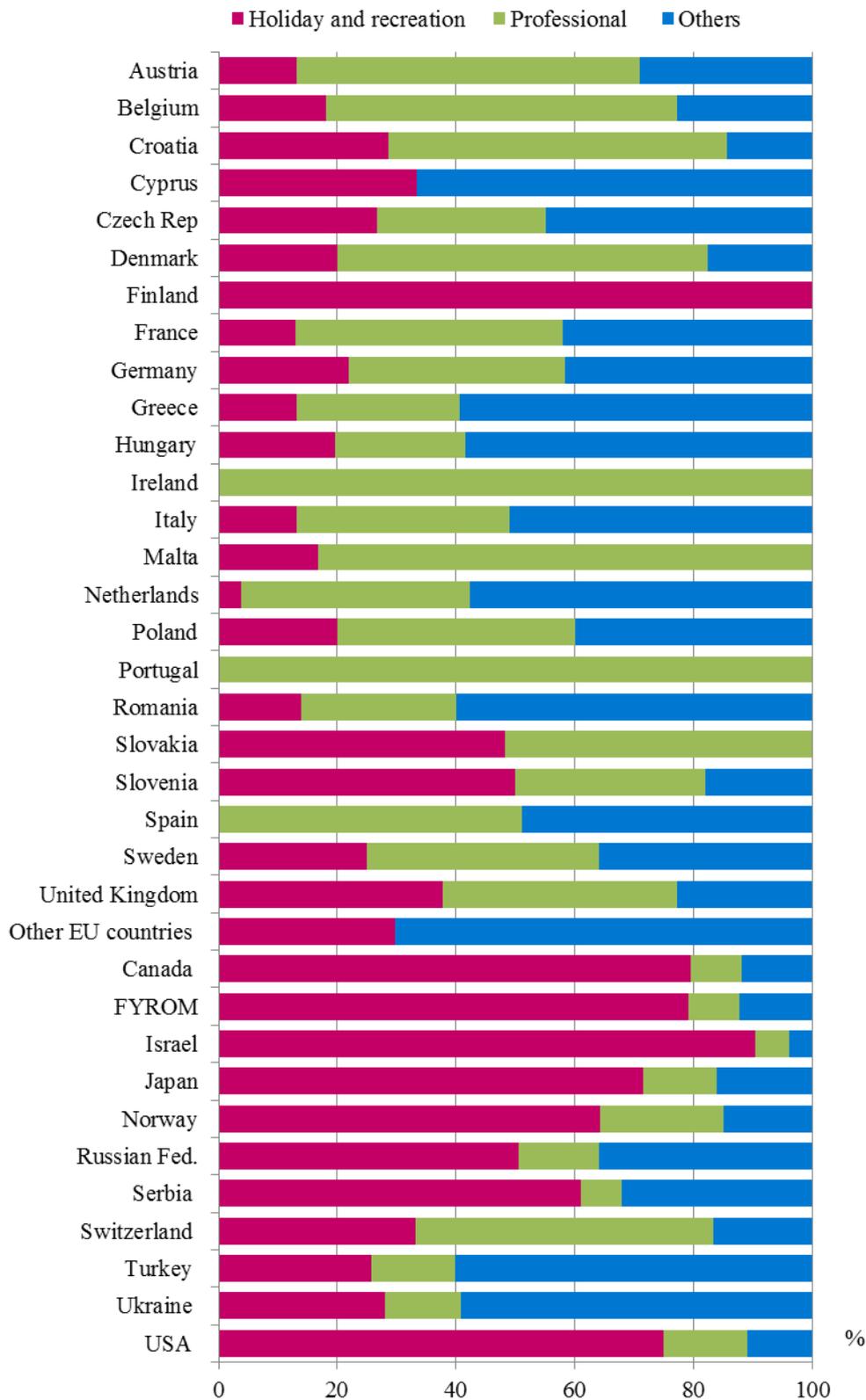
In November 2014, the predominant share of the visits with others purposes (including as guest and passing transit) was - 48.1%, followed by these with holiday and recreation purpose - 29.7% and with professional purpose - 22.2%.

The visits with holiday and recreation purposes formed 79.3% of the arrivals from the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and 61.1% - from Serbia. The visits with professional purpose were 59.1% of the arrivals from Belgium, as with other purposes were 60.1% of all arrivals from Turkey and 60.0% - from Romania (Figure 4).

¹ Group "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 country of origin in November 2014





Methodological notes

The definitions recommended by the World Tourist Organization and the Methodological manual for tourism by Eurostat are applied by the 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 for 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 landmarks, sport events and other);
- Visiting friends and relatives;
- Professional purposes (business trips, participation in conferences, congresses, concluding deals, etc.);
- Other (education, medical treatment, etc.) purposes.

Statistical data on the trips of Bulgarian citizens travelling abroad and visits by foreigners to 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 through 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 from “third countries” are obtained directly from the Ministry of Interior.

Data on the purposes of the trips are obtained on the basis of the NSI’s regular monthly sample survey of passing Bulgarian and foreign citizens through the border check points.



Annex

Table 1

**Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purposes of visit
and country of destination in November 2014**

(Number)

Country of destination	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
Total	270755	87560	66823	116372
EU	143614	50631	38951	54032
Austria	7891	1246	2492	4153
Belgium	2991	214	1068	1709
Croatia	630	126	294	210
Cyprus	271	-	181	90
Czech Republic	2998	723	827	1448
Denmark	655	-	573	82
Finland	55	5	9	41
France	6878	2172	2396	2310
Germany	10585	1777	3090	5718
Greece	55483	27702	14677	13104
Hungary	1218	487	-	731
Ireland	417	-	417	-
Italy	7499	2330	2825	2344
Malta	107	107	-	-
Netherlands	464	196	143	125
Poland	1840	511	409	920
Portugal	649	-	-	649
Romania	27864	8195	6283	13386
Slovakia	352	-	264	88
Slovenia	292	83	42	167
Spain	6242	3402	861	1979
Sweden	574	-	344	230
United Kingdom	7183	1339	1582	4262
Other EU countries	476	16	174	286
Other European countries	120388	36169	23913	60306
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	12617	4584	3663	4370
Norway	31	-	-	31
Russian Federation	2644	74	744	1826
Serbia	22504	5147	6434	10923
Switzerland	224	19	111	94
Turkey	80422	26345	11959	42118
Ukraine	1946	-	1002	944
Other countries	1863	152	398	1313
Canada	376	-	-	376
Israel	737	105	211	421
USA	750	47	187	516
Rest of the world	4890	608	3561	721



Table 2

**Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria
by purpose of visit and country of origin in November 2014**

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
Total	433228	128660	96199	208369
EU	230484	36375	71576	122533
Austria	6694	881	3875	1938
Belgium	2296	418	1357	521
Croatia	1870	534	1069	267
Cyprus	1554	518	-	1036
Czech Republic	2973	794	843	1336
Denmark	1135	227	708	200
Finland	399	399	-	-
France	5741	741	2593	2407
Germany	10968	2410	3988	4570
Greece	61094	8059	16789	36246
Hungary	3436	677	749	2010
Ireland	230	-	230	-
Italy	6710	886	2405	3419
Malta	1024	171	853	-
Netherlands	3150	121	1212	1817
Poland	4576	915	1838	1823
Portugal	405	-	405	-
Romania	101154	14161	26300	60693
Slovakia	2132	1030	1102	-
Slovenia	837	419	268	150
Spain	3755	-	1921	1834
Sweden	730	183	285	262
United Kingdom	7046	2660	2786	1600
Other EU countries	575	171	-	404
Other European countries	162442	74691	19491	68260
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	32915	26093	2819	4003
Norway	640	412	133	95
Russian Federation	9508	4804	1293	3411
Serbia	34264	20921	2372	10971
Switzerland	2863	953	1432	478
Turkey	70243	18140	9914	42189
Ukraine	12009	3368	1528	7113
Other countries	9539	7834	935	770
Canada	618	492	53	73
Israel	4375	3955	251	169
Japan	635	454	79	102
USA	3911	2933	552	426
Rest of the world	30763	9760	4197	16806