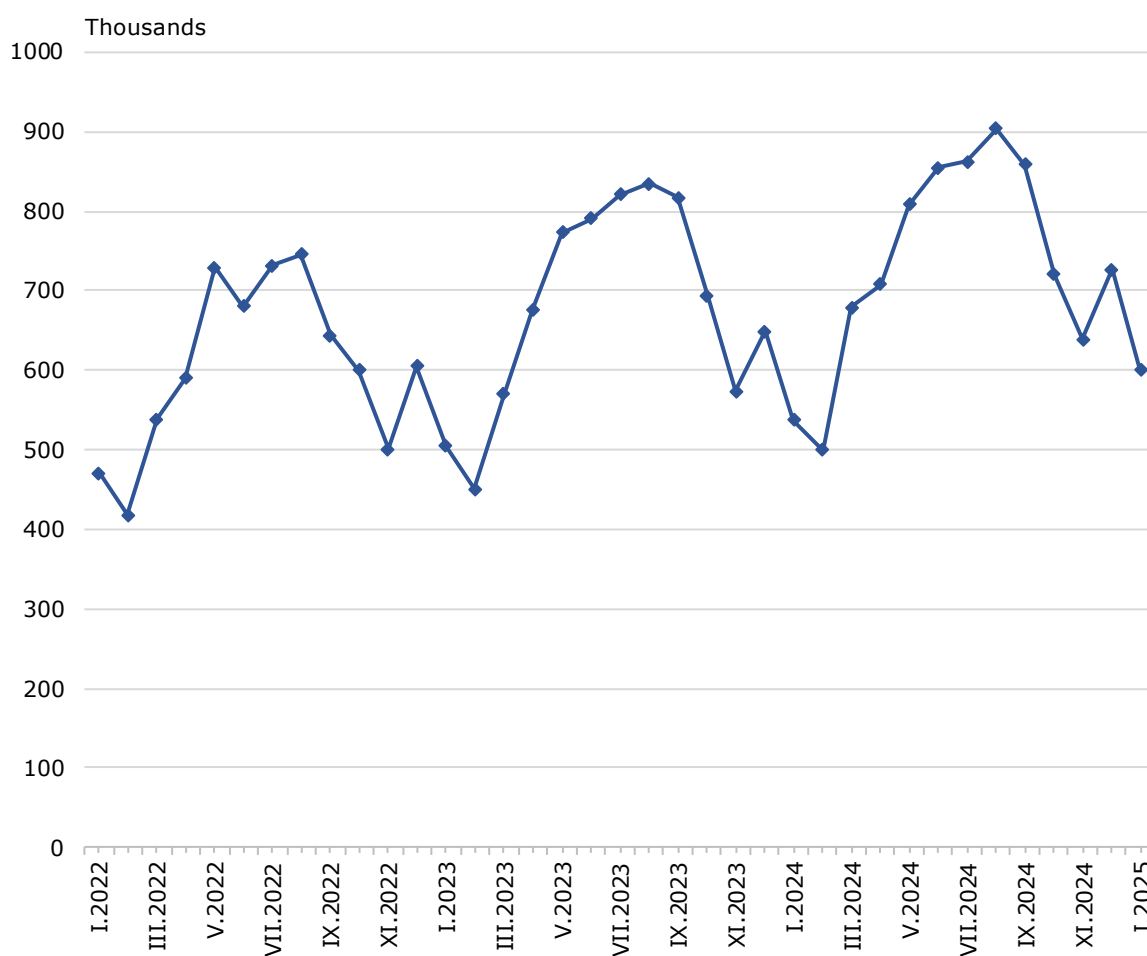




## TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN JANUARY 2025

In January 2025, **the number of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad** was 600.4 thousand (Annex, Table 1), or 11.7% above the registered in January 2024 (Figure 1). An increase in the trips with all the observed purposes was registered.

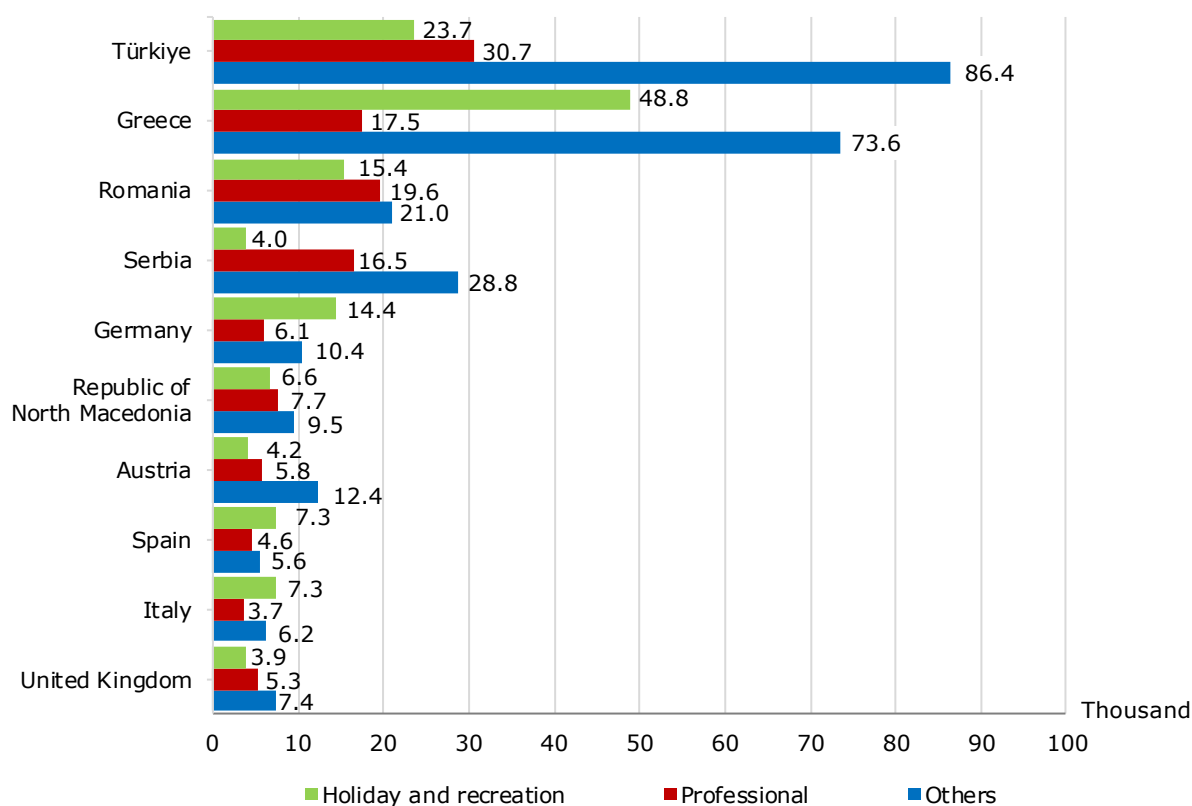
**Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months**



Most of the trips of Bulgarian residents were made to: Türkiye - 140.8 thousand, Greece - 139.9 thousand, Romania - 56.0 thousand, Serbia - 49.3 thousand, Germany - 30.9 thousand, Republic of North Macedonia - 23.8 thousand, Austria - 22.4 thousand, Spain - 17.5 thousand, Italy - 17.2 thousand, the United Kingdom - 16.6 thousand (Figure 2).

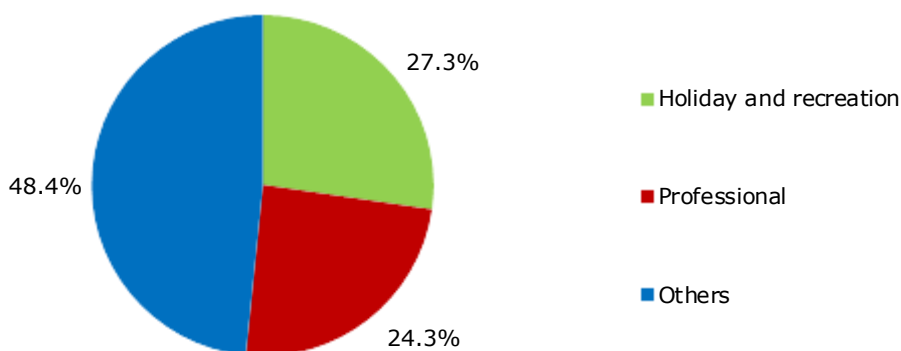
## TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN JANUARY 2025

**Figure 2. Most visited countries by Bulgarian citizens, by purpose of travel, in January 2025**



The trips with other purposes formed the greatest share of the total number of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad - 48.4%, followed by those with holiday and recreation purposes - 27.3%, and with professional purposes - 24.3% (Figure 3).

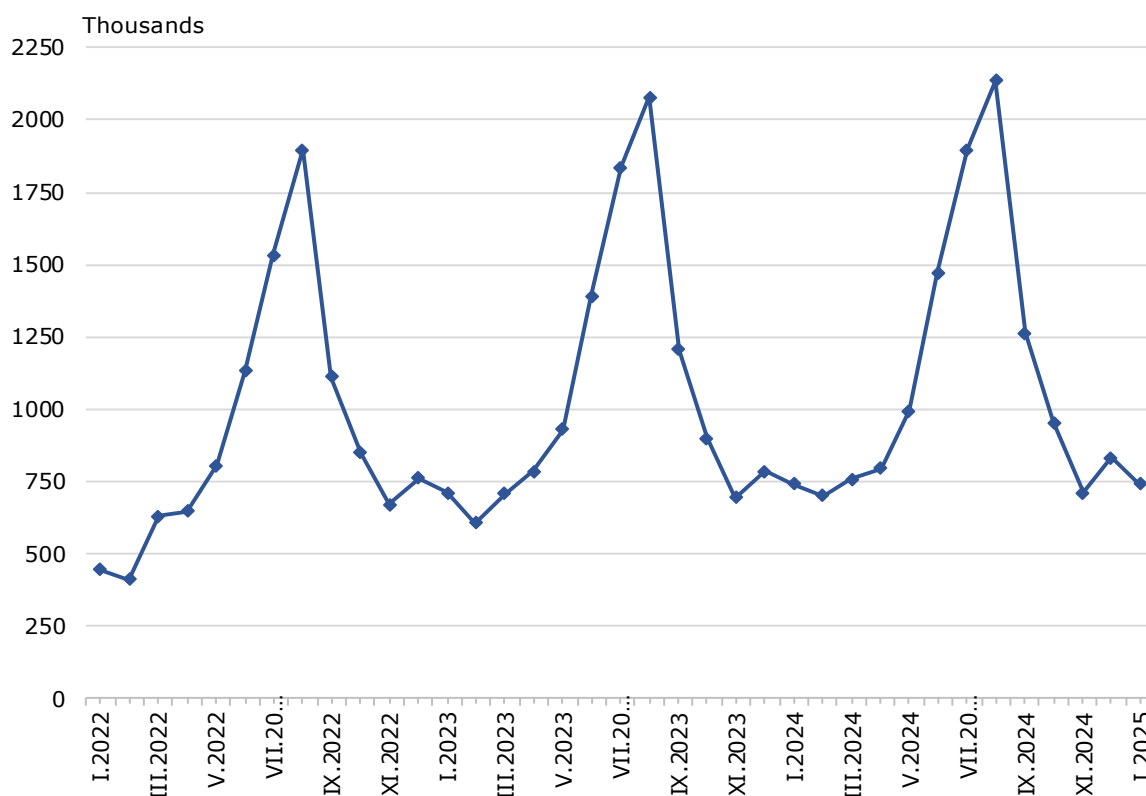
**Figure 3. Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit in January 2025**



## TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN JANUARY 2025

In January 2025, **the number of visits of non-residents to Bulgaria** was 739.0 thousand (Annex, Table 2), or 0.3% less in comparison with the same month of the previous year (Figure 4). A decrease by 5.9% was registered in the trips with other purposes, while those with holiday and recreation purposes and with professional purposes increased by 6.5% and 2.9% respectively. The transit passes through the country were 28.4% (210.1 thousand) of all visits of non-residents to Bulgaria.

**Figure 4. Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria by months**



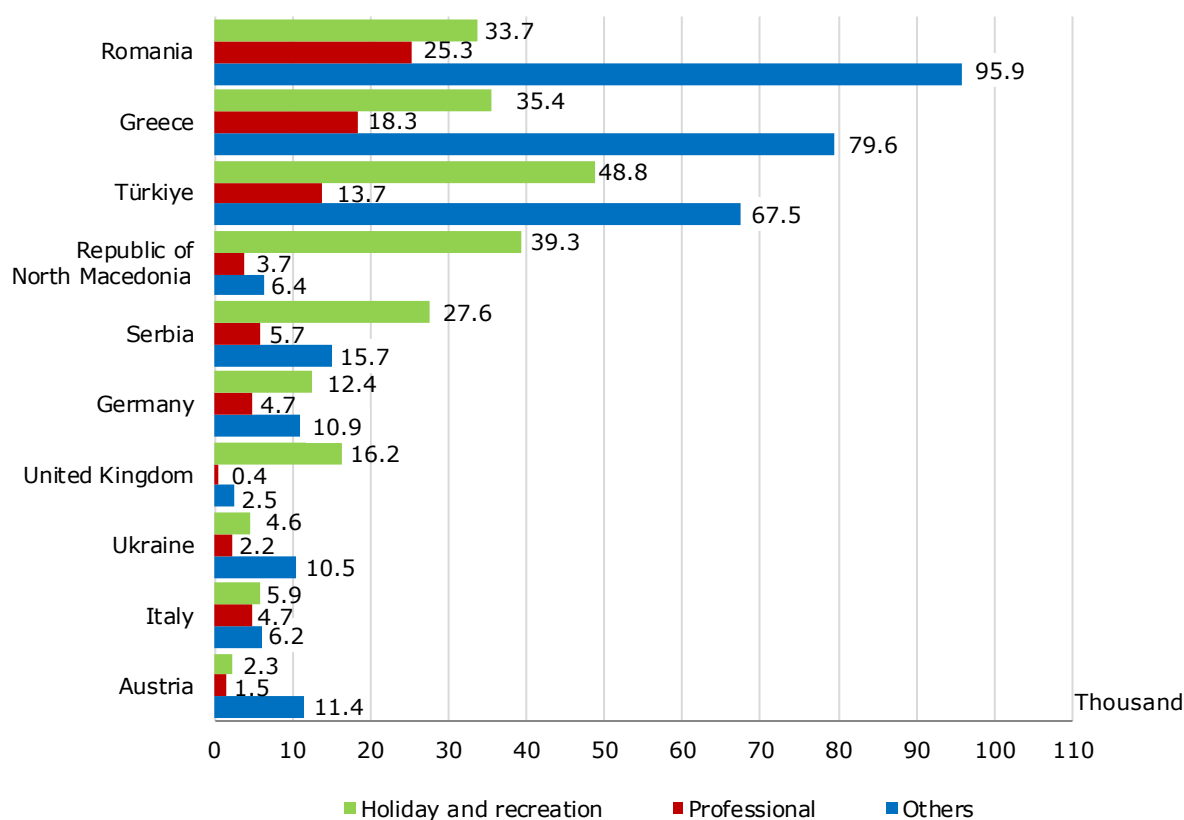
The share of visits of EU citizens was 55.9% of the total number of non-residents' visits to Bulgaria and reached 413.5 thousand, the largest being by visitors from Romania - 37.5%, and from Greece - 32.2%.

The visits of non-residents in the group 'Other European countries'<sup>1</sup> were 269.8 thousand, or 36.5% of all visits to Bulgaria. The highest registered number of visits was from Türkiye - 130.0 thousand, or 48.2% in this group.

Most visits to Bulgaria were from: Romania - 154.9 thousand, Greece - 133.3 thousand, Türkiye - 130.0 thousand, Republic of North Macedonia - 49.4 thousand, Serbia - 49.0 thousand, Germany - 28.0 thousand, the United Kingdom - 19.1 thousand, Ukraine - 17.3 thousand, Italy - 16.8 thousand, Austria - 15.2 thousand (Figure 5).

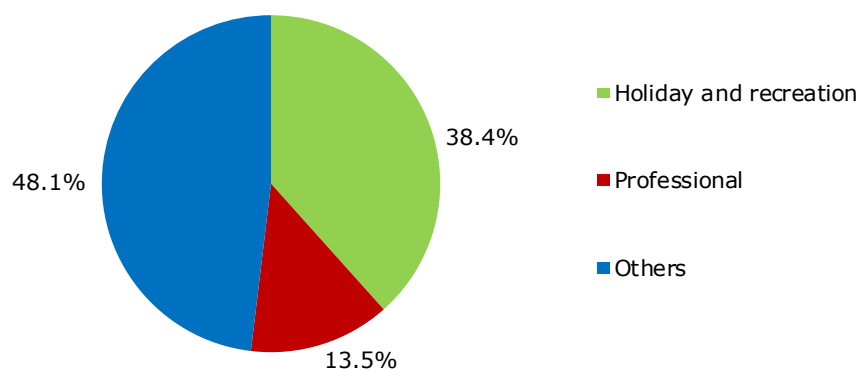
<sup>1</sup> Group 'Other European countries' includes countries in Europe outside the EU.

**Figure 5. Countries with the highest total number of visits to Bulgaria,  
by purpose of travel, in January 2025**



The predominant share of the visits was with other purposes - 48.1%, followed by trips with holiday and recreation purposes - 38.4%, and with professional purposes - 13.5% (Figure 6).

**Figure 6. Structure of the visits of non-residents to Bulgaria by purpose  
in January 2025**



### **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 less than a year and whose main purpose is not doing any activity for payment in the place visited.

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

- Excursion and holiday;
- Professional purposes (business trips, participation in conferences, congresses, concluding deals, etc.);
- Other (as a guest, education and visiting cultural and sports events, etc.) purposes.

Statistical data on the trips of Bulgarian residents travelling abroad and visits by non-residents to Bulgaria are obtained on the basis of monthly information received from the Ministry of Interior and a sample survey of the National Statistical Institute among residents and non-residents passing through border checkpoints.

Data on the number of 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 NSI's regular monthly sample survey of passing residents and non-residents through the border checkpoints.

**TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM  
ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN JANUARY 2025**

**Annex**

**Table 1**

**Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit and  
by country of destination in January 2025**

(Number)

Country of destination	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
<b>Total</b>	<b>600421</b>	<b>163858</b>	<b>145946</b>	<b>290617</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>351958</b>	<b>118502</b>	<b>78736</b>	<b>154720</b>
Austria	22438	4155	5817	12466
Belgium	12683	2122	4146	6415
Croatia	1584	264	528	792
Cyprus	380	126	-	254
Czechia	9456	3796	1773	3887
Denmark	2445	1075	602	768
Finland	942	352	249	341
France	12164	4505	3604	4055
Germany	30902	14479	6051	10372
Greece	139901	48803	17535	73563
Hungary	3663	916	2442	305
Ireland	948	349	362	237
Italy	17226	7330	3665	6231
Malta	204	204	-	-
Netherlands	7536	1884	2072	3580
Poland	6449	1063	3414	1972
Portugal	1666	926	194	546
Romania	55955	15372	19595	20988
Slovakia	2458	983	706	769
Slovenia	2647	1260	749	638
Spain	17452	7346	4553	5553
Sweden	1886	947	328	611
Other EU countries	973	245	351	377
<b>Other European countries</b>	<b>234658</b>	<b>39815</b>	<b>61179</b>	<b>133664</b>
Norway	471	183	149	139
Republic of North Macedonia	23815	6595	7694	9526
Russian Federation	576	291	-	285
Serbia	49323	4026	16510	28787
Switzerland	2876	1070	863	943
Türkiye	140834	23705	30690	86439
Ukraine	114	-	-	114
United Kingdom	16649	3945	5273	7431
<b>Other countries</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>209</b>
Canada	198	133	65	-
Israel	93	32	61	-
USA	444	87	148	209
<b>Rest of the world</b>	<b>13070</b>	<b>5289</b>	<b>5757</b>	<b>2024</b>

**TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM  
ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN JANUARY 2025**

**Table 2**

**Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria by purpose of visit and  
by country of origin in January 2025**

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
<b>Total</b>	<b>739038</b>	<b>283820</b>	<b>99702</b>	<b>355516</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>413454</b>	<b>114115</b>	<b>68268</b>	<b>231071</b>
Austria	15174	2263	1464	11447
Belgium	4055	2679	145	1231
Croatia	2784	635	286	1863
Cyprus	2144	909	824	411
Czechia	2100	867	374	859
Denmark	1155	294	399	462
Finland	599	211	125	263
France	6667	1988	1191	3488
Germany	27966	12390	4720	10856
Greece	133268	35426	18245	79597
Hungary	4567	1522	1015	2030
Ireland	4454	3062	835	557
Italy	16782	5923	4689	6170
Malta	768	768	-	-
Netherlands	6011	1561	1444	3006
Poland	14720	3840	3680	7200
Portugal	2470	1647	-	823
Romania	154904	33726	25294	95884
Slovakia	1277	421	198	658
Slovenia	1051	607	381	63
Spain	6270	1763	2351	2156
Sweden	2831	841	291	1699
Other EU countries	1437	772	317	348
<b>Other European countries</b>	<b>269806</b>	<b>138799</b>	<b>26517</b>	<b>104490</b>
Norway	590	393	-	197
Republic of North Macedonia	49419	39272	3716	6431
Russian Federation	2810	1140	367	1303
Serbia	48987	27546	5743	15698
Switzerland	1601	782	499	320
Türkiye	129995	48837	13660	67498
Ukraine	17302	4629	2171	10502
United Kingdom	19102	16200	361	2541
<b>Other countries</b>	<b>17750</b>	<b>16778</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>693</b>
Canada	319	217	4	98
Israel	15167	14914	107	146
Japan	196	139	21	36
USA	2068	1508	147	413
<b>Rest of the world</b>	<b>38028</b>	<b>14128</b>	<b>4638</b>	<b>19262</b>