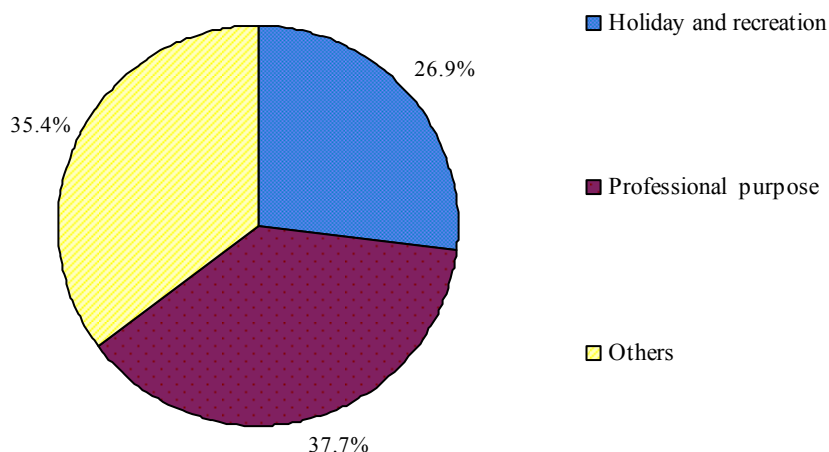# TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN SEPTEMBER 2011

In September 2011 the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad was 366.0 thousand, which was 3.2% more than the number of the trips in September 2010 (Table 1). An increase in the total number of the trips was registered namely to: Canada - by 30.3%, Greece - by 23.8%, USA - by 17.8%, Israel - by 16.0%, Slovakia - by 14.6%, Romania - by 11.5%, Spain - by 8.9%, Norway - by 8.8%, Switzerland - by 8.6%, Malta - by 8.4%, Slovenia - by 8.2%, Czech Republic - by 8.1%, Serbia - by 7.4%, etc. At the same time a decrease was observed to: Ireland - by 12.0%, Turkey - by 10.6%, Austria - by 3.4%, FYROM - by 3.0%, and etc.

The highest share of the trips of Bulgarian citizens travelling abroad had those with professional purpose - 37.7%, followed by other purposes (as guest, education, visiting cultural and sport events etc.) - 35.4% and with holiday and recreation - 26.9%.
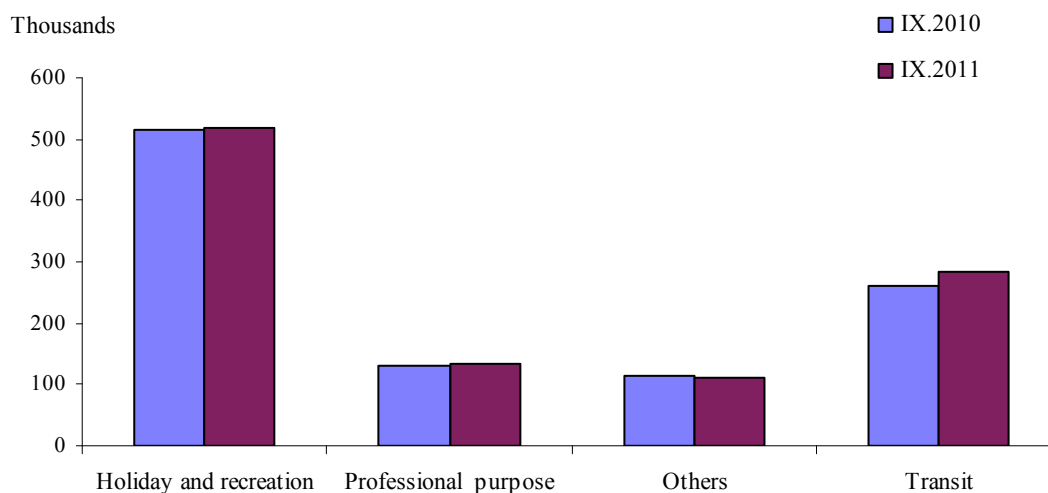
Figure 1. Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit in September 2011

In September 2011, the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria was 1 049.2 thousand or 3.0% more than the number of the trips in the corresponding month of 2010 (Table 2). The largest increase was registered in the number of visitors with passing transit - by 1.5%.

Figure 2. Number of arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad by purpose of visit
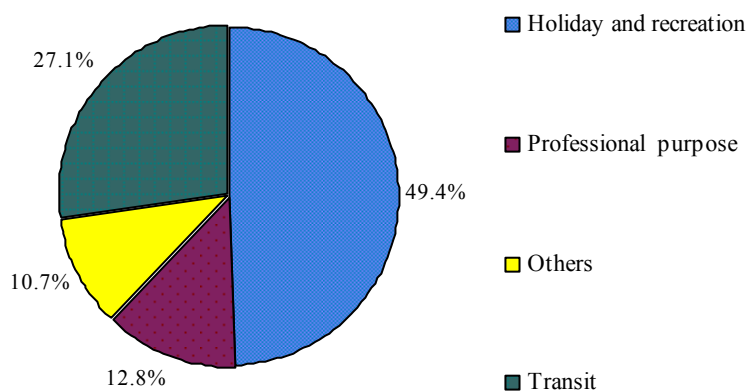
Thousands

■ IX.2010
■ IX.2011

In September 2011, the arrivals of visitors from EU Member States rose by 1.7% in comparison with the same month of 2010. The highest growth in the number of visits was observed from Czech Republic and Denmark - by 10.6 and 10.0% respectively. A decrease in the visits was registered from Estonia - by 15.8%, Malta - by 11.7%, Finland - by 9.0%, etc.

The visits of foreigners in the group "Other European countries" [1] were increased by 7.0%. The largest growth in the number of arrivals of citizens was observed from Ukraine - by 24.7% and Russian Federation - by 24.0%, and Serbia - by 11.1%.

In September 2011, the arrivals with holiday and recreation purpose composed the greatest share of the total number of foreigners visited Bulgaria - 49.4%, followed by the visitors passing transit - 27.1%, professional purpose - 12.8% and others - 10.7%.

**Figure 3. Structure of arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad by purpose of visit
in September 2011**

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[1] Group of "Other European countries" include countries in Europe outside EU.

Methodological notes

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 purpose of visit and by country of destination in September 2011

Country of destination	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number			Change in % compared to September 2010
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others	
Total	**365971**	**98578**	**137837**	**129556**	**3.2**
EU	**178929**	**58954**	**95650**	**24325**	**15.2**
of which:					
Austria	4001	1573	1849	579	-3.4
Belgium	2440	853	1042	545	4.9
United Kingdom	6677	1785	2581	2311	3.2
Germany	15028	4941	7928	2159	6.9
Greece	92167	27056	52857	12254	23.8
Spain	8541	3697	3739	1105	8.9
Italy	6065	2647	2768	650	6.4
Poland	1764	624	936	204	2.7
Romania	30839	12073	16176	2590	11.5
Hungary	1743	429	904	410	6.5
France	3010	1124	1594	292	2.2
Czech Rep.	1922	693	976	253	8.1
Sweden	190	48	82	60	3.3
Other European countries	**181993**	**38601**	**40259**	**103133**	**-6.7**
Norway	223	26	41	156	8.8
FYROM	27451	4549	7994	14908	-3.0
Russian Fed.	1372	215	673	484	6.9
Serbia	29865	15502	12106	2257	7.4
Turkey	121343	17826	18501	85016	-10.6
Ukraine	996	176	621	199	2.4
Switzerland	743	307	323	113	8.6
Others	**5049**	**1023**	**1928**	**2098**	**12.9**

Table 2

Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria
by purpose of visit and by country of origin in September 2011

Country of origin	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number				Change in % compared to September 2010
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others	Transit	
Total	**1049192**	**518084**	**134630**	**112194**	**284 284**	**3.0**
EU	**742689**	**373886**	**122101**	**76003**	**170699**	**1.7**
of which:						
Austria	32377	11597	6953	555	13272	4.8
Belgium	13916	8272	3634	758	1252	6.5
United Kingdom	37495	24323	6993	4950	1229	-2.9
Germany	157995	103502	20990	6074	27429	-3.4
Greece	103103	36185	24495	24128	18295	8.5
Spain	9553	5150	2101	1421	881	-2.3
Italy	17367	6877	5285	2430	2775	-3.1
Poland	49446	37482	2601	2308	7055	0.3
Romania	172796	49981	28946	24047	69822	2.0
Hungary	19813	12750	3260	374	3429	-0.2
France	34613	19360	4986	3841	6426	2.2
Czech Rep.	28924	20140	2969	1719	4096	10.6
Sweden	6489	4759	1108	122	500	0.8
Other European countries	**231530**	**99171**	**8938**	**28514**	**94907**	**7.0**
Norway	10307	9421	69	133	684	-0.8
FYROM	37584	25997	343	5844	5400	-6.9
Russian Fed.	41496	31433	3707	4519	1837	24.0
Serbia	30981	16388	230	2365	11998	11.1
Turkey	80008	1350	3572	11028	64058	2.6
Ukraine	24312	10650	773	3867	9022	24.7
Switzerland	6842	3932	244	758	1908	0.9
Others	**74973**	**45027**	**3591**	**7677**	**18678**	**3.8**