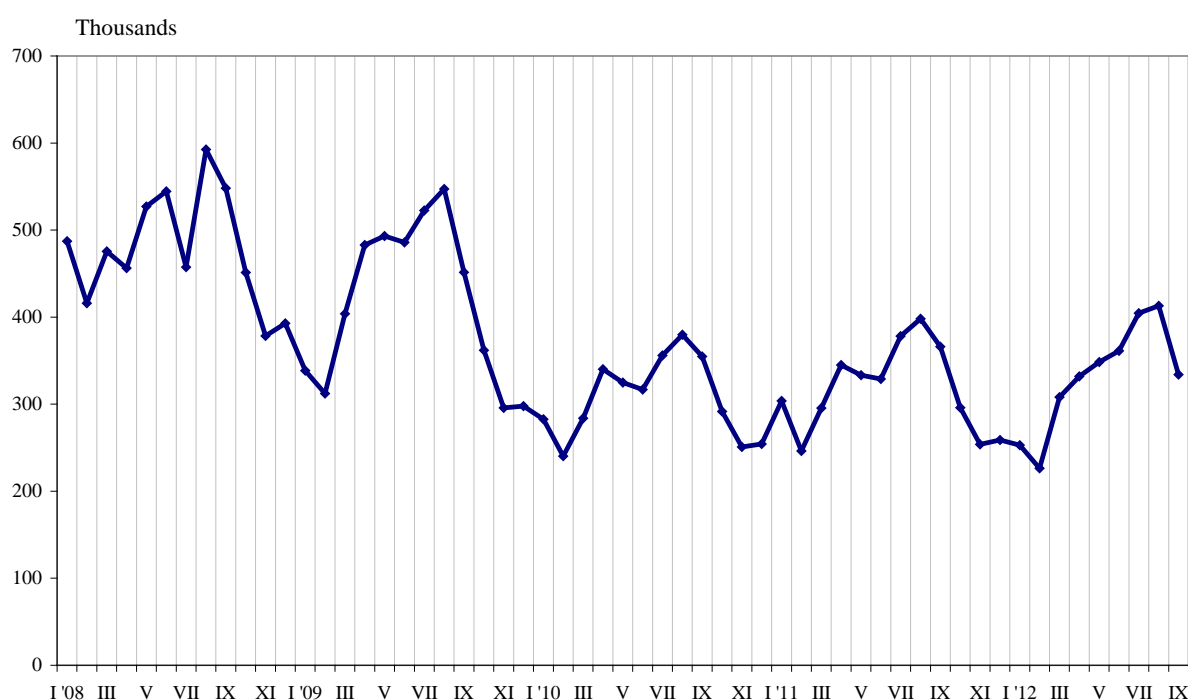




TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN SEPTEMBER 2012

In September 2012 **the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad** was 334.0 thousand as compared to August 2012 and September 2011 a decrease was registered by 19.1% and 8.7% respectively (Figure 1). In comparison with the same month of the previous year a decrease in the total number of the trips of Bulgarian residents was reported to: Serbia - by 56.2%, Turkey - by 45.4% and Greece - by 13.9%. At the same time an increase was observed to: Austria - by 159.4%, Romania - by 52.3%, Spain - by 37.1%, Germany - 30.8% and etc (Annex, Table 1).

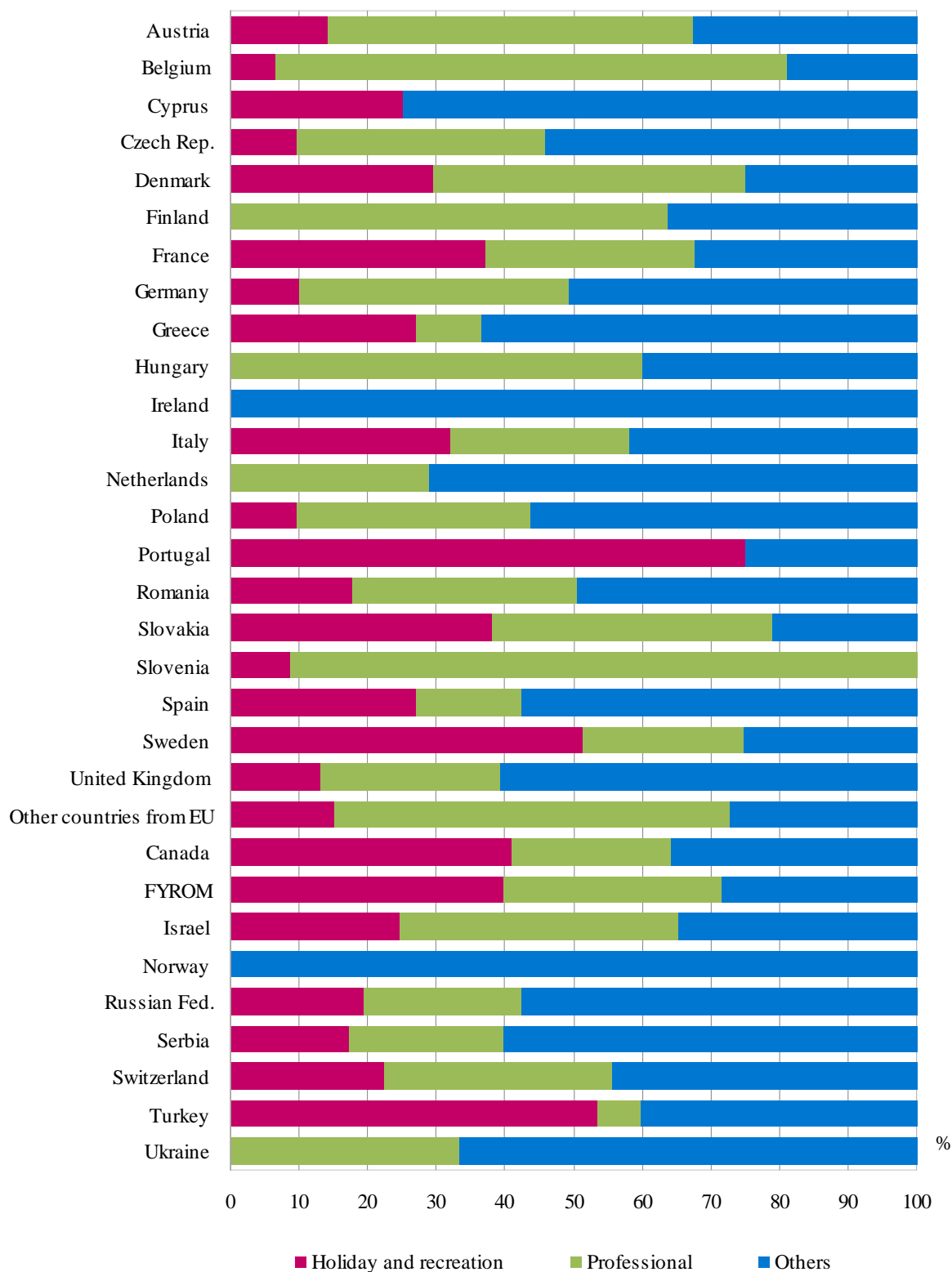
Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months



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 - 48.7%, followed by the trips with holiday and recreation purposes - 29.2% and with professional purpose - 22.1%. In comparison with September 2011 an increase in the trips with other purposes was observed - by 25.4%, while a decrease was registered in the trips with professional purposes, as well as these with holiday and recreation purpose - by 46.4% and 1.0% respectively.

In September 2012 the trips with other purposes formed 63.5% from all trips to Greece, 60.3% - to Serbia and 50.9% - to Germany. Predominated share of the trips to Turkey and FYROM was with holiday and recreation purpose - 53.3% and 39.7% respectively, while to Belgium and Austria they were connected with professional purpose - 74.4% and 53.1% respectively of all trips of Bulgarian residents to these countries (Figure 2).

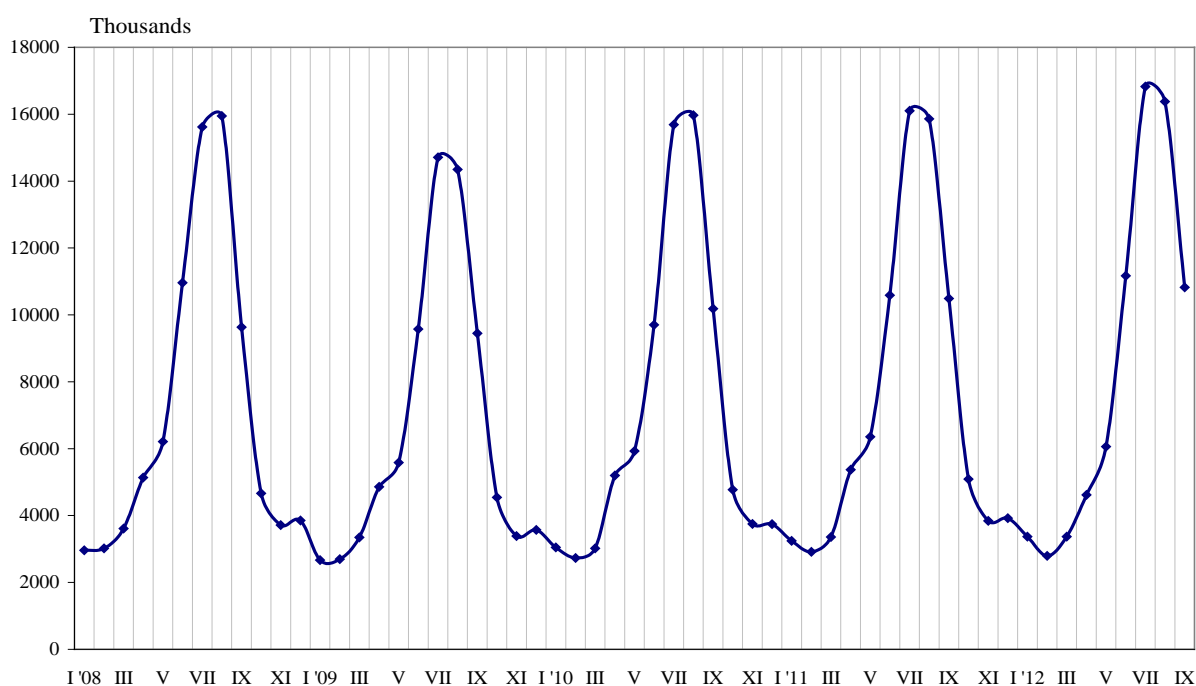
Figure 2. Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit and by countries in September 2012





In September 2012, the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria was 1 082.4 thousand which was by 33.9% less compared to August 2012 but it was by 3.2% above the level from September 2011 (Figure 3). An increase in the visit by all observed purposes was registered, as the greatest was the growth in the visits with holiday and recreation purpose - by 5.0%, followed by these with professional purpose - by 4.4%, and with other purposes - by 0.4%.

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 foreigners visited Bulgaria - 67.3%, followed by citizens from the other European countries - 25.7% (Annex, Table 2). In comparison with the same month of the previous year the arrivals of visitors from EU Member States decreased by 1.9%. A significant decrease was observed in the visits of the citizens from Denmark - by 16.2%, Finland - by 16.2%, Netherlands - by 15.1% and Germany - by 10.2%. However a growth in the visits from Spain - by 19.4%, Belgium - by 8.2%, Slovenia - by 8.1% and Italy - by 7.1% was registered.

The visits of foreigners in the group "Other European countries"¹ increased by 19.9% as the highest growth was observed from Ukraine, Turkey, and Serbia - by 36.0%, 34.3% and 22.5% respectively.

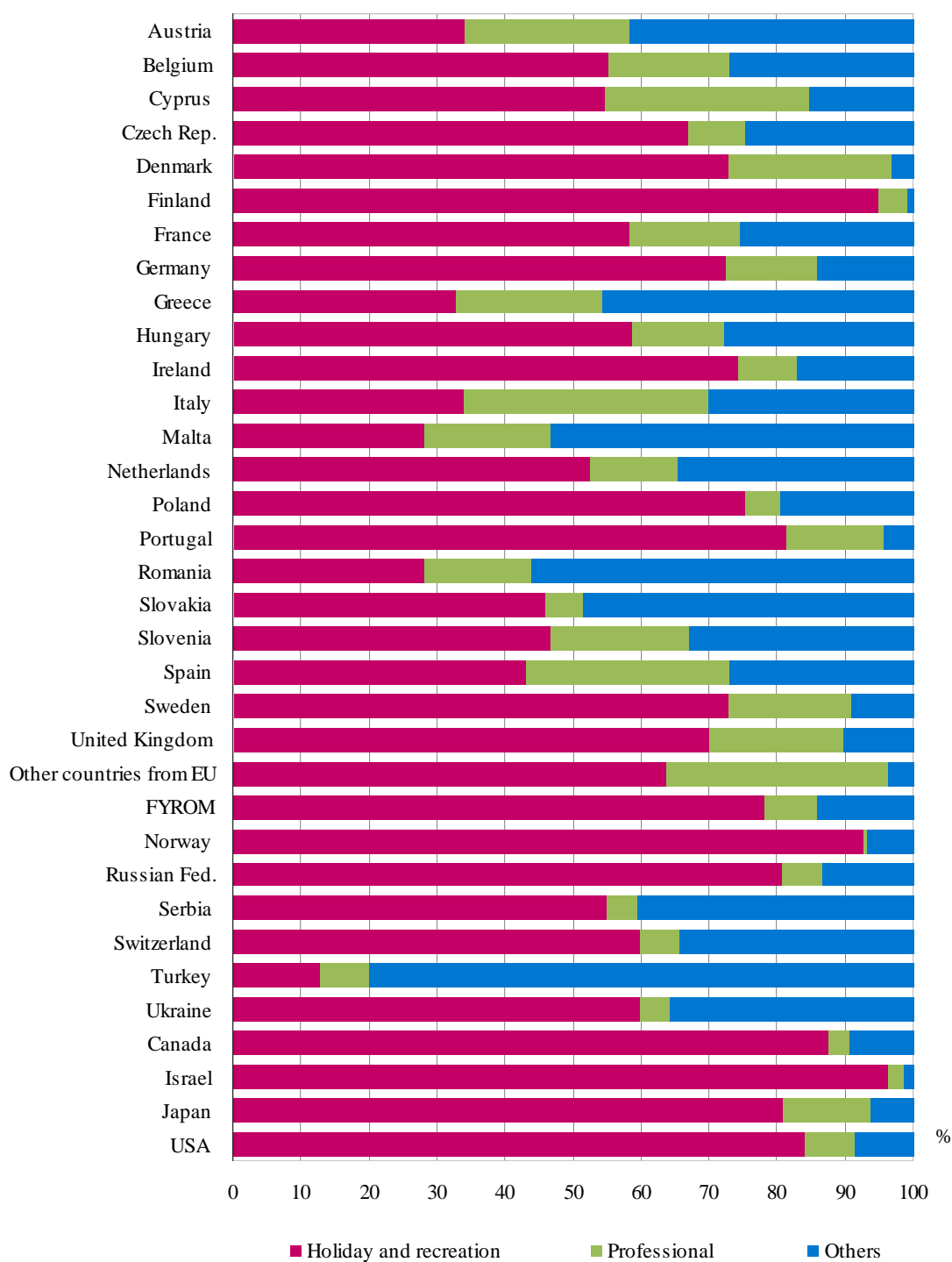
In September 2012 the predominated share of the total number of the visits to Bulgaria were with holiday and recreation purpose - 50.2%, followed by the arrivals with other purposes (including as guest and passing transit) - 36.8% and with professional purpose - 13.0%.

The visits with holiday and recreation purpose formed 80.6% of the arrivals from Russia, 78.0% - from FYROM and 72.3% - from Germany. The visits with professional purpose were 35.9% of all arrivals from Italy, while with other purpose were 80.0% of the arrivals from Turkey and 56.3% - from Romania (Figure 4).

¹ 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 countries in September 2012





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 purposes of visit and by country of destination in September 2012

Country of destination	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number			Change in % compared to September 2011
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others	
TOTAL	334034	97634	73882	162518	-8.7
EU	206901	45082	50577	111242	15.6
Austria	10378	1459	5514	3405	159.4
Belgium	1473	96	1096	281	-39.6
Cyprus	733	183	-	550	-43.5
Czech Rep.	6669	634	2420	3615	247.0
Denmark	668	197	304	167	124.9
Finland	1414	-	900	514	1891.5
France	6783	2524	2051	2208	125.3
Germany	19656	1965	7681	10010	30.8
Greece	79313	21352	7625	50336	-13.9
Hungary	557	-	334	223	-68.0
Ireland	897	-	-	897	321.1
Italy	8034	2571	2089	3374	32.5
Malta	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	414	-	119	295	-77.7
Poland	2337	222	800	1315	32.5
Portugal	1437	1078	-	359	550.2
Romania	46959	8265	15403	23291	52.3
Slovakia	472	180	192	100	300.0
Slovenia	330	28	302	-	31.0
Spain	11713	3154	1802	6757	37.1
Sweden	762	390	180	192	301.1
United Kingdom	5186	676	1353	3157	-22.3
Other countries from EU	716	108	412	196	472.8
Other European countries	118074	50806	18901	48367	-35.1
FYROM	30218	11992	9593	8633	10.1
Norway	316	-	-	316	41.7
Russian Fed.	5075	976	1171	2928	269.9
Serbia	13068	2253	2929	7886	-56.2
Switzerland	1170	260	390	520	57.5
Turkey	66298	35325	4176	26797	-45.4
Ukraine	1929	-	642	1287	93.7
Other countries	3086	784	1142	1160	57.4
Canada	484	198	112	174	25.1
Israel	710	174	289	247	25.2
USA	1892	412	741	739	87.9
Rest of the world	5973	962	3262	1749	93.4



Table 2

Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria by purpose of visit
and by country of origin in September 2012

Country of origin	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number			Change in % compared to September 2011
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others	
TOTAL	1082355	543742	140548	398065	3.2
EU	728914	365776	118661	244477	-1.9
Austria	32295	10977	7814	13504	-0.3
Belgium	15054	8282	2681	4091	8.2
Cyprus	692	378	208	106	-11.8
Czech Rep.	28601	19108	2400	7093	-1.1
Denmark	7303	5322	1745	236	-16.2
Finland	5485	5194	240	51	-16.2
France	32508	18882	5322	8304	-6.1
Germany	141940	102651	19079	20210	-10.2
Greece	107899	35267	23042	49590	4.7
Hungary	20282	11874	2754	5654	2.4
Ireland	2058	1527	174	357	-6.8
Italy	18608	6297	6671	5640	7.1
Malta	131	37	24	70	-17.1
Netherlands	19030	9981	2435	6614	-15.1
Poland	49130	36933	2509	9688	-0.6
Portugal	664	540	94	30	-6.5
Romania	177324	49833	27583	99908	2.6
Slovakia	9964	4574	545	4845	-1.6
Slovenia	3056	1423	621	1012	8.1
Spain	11405	4912	3396	3097	19.4
Sweden	6129	4469	1094	566	-5.5
United Kingdom	35203	24671	6875	3657	-6.1
Other countries from EU	4153	2644	1355	154	-4.1
Other European countries	277638	133136	16808	127694	19.9
FYROM	33610	26209	2598	4803	-10.6
Norway	9385	8701	51	633	-8.9
Russian Fed.	49793	40116	2935	6742	20.0
Serbia	37966	20791	1710	15465	22.5
Switzerland	6400	3835	354	2211	-6.5
Turkey	107430	13695	7748	85987	34.3
Ukraine	33054	19789	1412	11853	36.0
Other countries	22294	20123	1006	1165	-25.7
Canada	2243	1964	65	214	39.8
Israel	10915	10509	239	167	-46.9
Japan	836	675	108	53	-5.2
USA	8300	6975	594	731	18.7
Rest of the world	53509	24707	4073	24729	19.0