

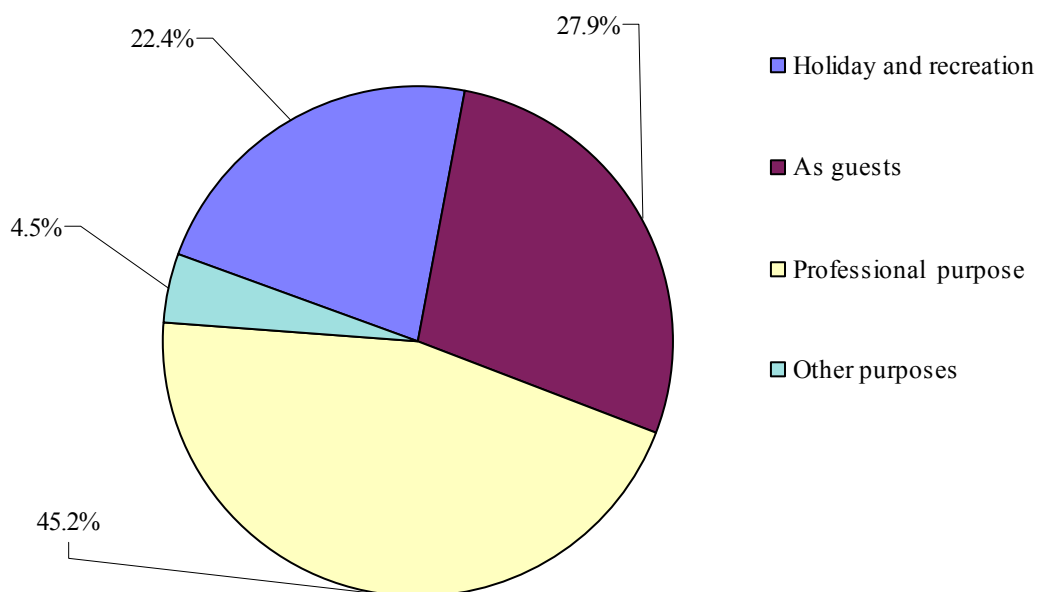


Trips of Bulgarian residents in abroad and arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria in February 2010

In February 2010 the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents in abroad was 240.3 thousand, which was 23.0% less than the number of the trips in February 2009 (Annex 1).

As compared to the same month of 2009 an increase in the total number of the trips was registered, namely to: Norway - by 60.5%, Portugal - by 6.6% and Poland - by 0.7%. At the same time, a decrease was registered in the number of the trips to the all other surveyed countries. The highest decline was observed in the trips to Ireland - by 83.0%, Ukraine - by 66.6%, Malta - by 61.2%, Finland - by 58.6%, Japan - by 54.5%, Russian Fed. - by 53.9%, Austria - by 50.3%, Czech Rep. - by 49.6%, Israel - by 49.5%, followed up by Cyprus - by 47.5%, Hungary - by 46.0%, France - by 45.3%, Belgium - by 43.5%, Italy - by 43.4%, Slovakia - by 40.6%, Canada - by 40.3%, United Kingdom - by 38.3%.

The highest share of the trips of Bulgarian citizens travelling abroad had the trips with professional purpose - 45.2%, followed up by visits as guests - 27.9%, trips with holiday and recreation purpose - 22.4%, and other purposes - 4.5%.



Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents in abroad by purpose of visit in February 2010

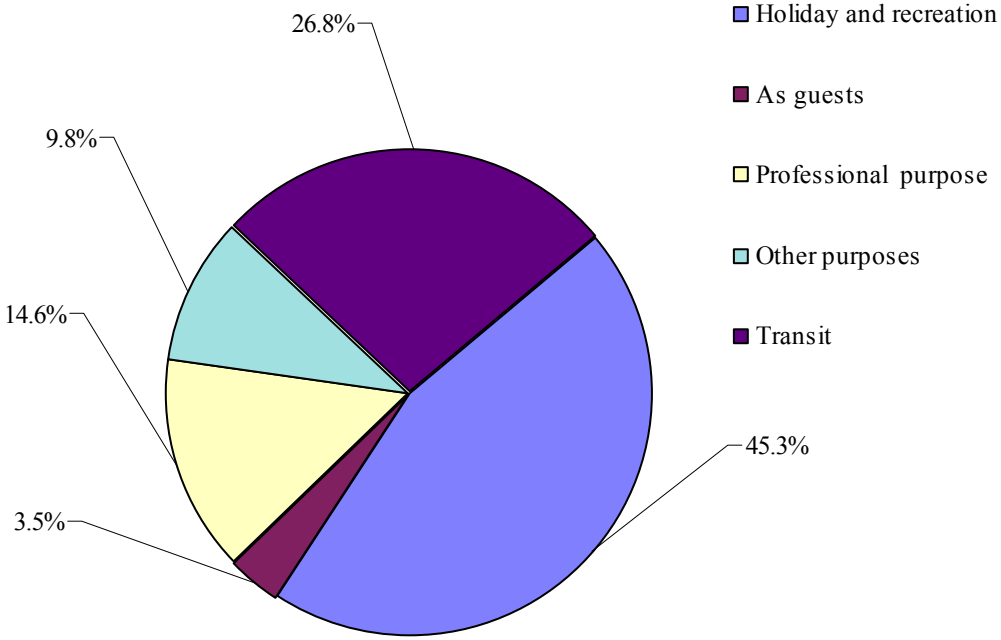
In February 2010, the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria was 273.2 thousand or 1.3% more than the number of trips in the same month of 2009 (Annex 2).

In respect to EU Member States more visits were made from citizens of United Kingdom - by 5.9%, Belgium - by 4.7%, Malta - by 4.3%, Poland - by 3.1% and Romania - by 3.0%. At the same time, a decrease of arrivals was registered from Portugal - by 13.3%, Sweden - by 12.8%, Austria - by 12.0%, Ireland - by 10.0% and Hungary - by 9.4%.

In the group "Other European countries"¹ the highest increase was observed in the number of visits of citizens from Serbia - by 23.4%, FYROM - by 22.3% and Russian Fed. - by 13.2%. At the same time, a decrease in the number of visits of citizens from Norway - by 9.7% and

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

from Turkey - by 8.2%. In February 2010, arrivals with holiday and recreation purpose composed the greatest share of the total number of foreigners' visited Bulgaria - 45.3%, followed by transit purpose - 26.8%, professional purpose - 14.6%, other purposes - 9.8% and visits as guests - 3.5%.



Structure of arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad by purpose of visit in February 2010

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 1

TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD BY PURPOSE OF VISIT AND BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION IN FEBRUARY 2010

Country of destination	Total	Purpose of visit				(Number)
		Holiday and recreation	As guests	Professional	Others	II 2010 to II 2009 %
Total	240288	53919	67049	108637	10683	-23.0
EU	129797	32821	11498	82236	3242	-27.6
of which :						
Austria	3169	1189	201	1643	136	-50.3
Belgium	1388	444	99	796	49	-43.5
United Kingdom	4006	678	816	2213	299	-38.3
Germany	9079	3092	525	5338	124	-38.1
Greece	75880	13989	7436	52620	1835	-18.1
Denmark	99	9	7	77	6	-38.1
Ireland	36	5	3	11	17	-83.0
Spain	4286	1526	187	2430	143	-36.8
Italy	4037	1445	198	2306	88	-43.4
Cyprus	750	151	79	478	42	-47.5
Malta	45	7	1	32	5	-61.2
Netherlands	1432	503	95	786	48	-28.9
Poland	1790	995	202	571	22	0.7
Portugal	129	44	-	81	4	6.6
Romania	20138	7805	1331	10719	283	-33.6
Slovakia	82	12	6	64	-	-40.6
Slovenia	194	87	-	100	7	-26.8
Hungary	802	148	191	413	50	-46.0
Finland	12	4	2	3	3	-58.6
France	1397	401	56	894	46	-45.3
Czech Rep.	911	275	53	562	21	-49.6
Sweden	98	12	10	62	14	-1.0
Other European countries	108110	20555	55388	25088	7079	-16.3
Norway	69	23	6	29	11	60.5
FYROM	18952	3246	7194	4514	3998	-5.7
Russian Fed.	587	97	65	313	112	-53.9
Serbia	20085	9512	779	9212	582	-14.4
Turkey	68136	7618	47318	10841	2359	-18.4
Ukraine	281	59	26	179	17	-66.6
Other countries	279	21	28	73	157	-53.7
Israel	106	16	24	51	15	-49.5
Canada	40	1	4	6	29	-40.3
USA	128	4	-	14	110	-59.2
Japan	5	-	-	2	3	-54.5
Rest of the world	1550	358	105	909	178	-33.3

**ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA
BY PURPOSE OF VISIT AND BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN IN FEBRUARY 2010**

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit					II 2010 to II 2009 %
		Holiday and recreation	As guests	Profesional	Others	Transit	
Total	273291	123762	9635	39802	26787	73305	1.3
EU	150056	84394	6612	31331	6510	21209	-1.8
of which :							
Austria	3841	1258	93	1372	87	1031	-12.0
Belgium	2276	1701	128	254	28	165	4.7
United Kingdom	16146	13258	957	1438	228	265	5.9
Germany	7526	3375	1229	1746	214	962	-7.6
Greece	44936	30264	1146	10877	1138	1511	-5.3
Denmark	935	614	17	150	27	127	0.1
Ireland	2624	1703	16	878	22	5	-10.0
Spain	1841	908	134	421	25	353	-2.4
Italy	5879	2437	729	1312	92	1309	-3.5
Cyprus	852	441	64	147	200	-	-6.7
Malta	511	440	3	63	2	3	4.3
Netherlands	2162	1354	177	382	47	202	-1.8
Poland	4649	1220	321	1254	747	1107	3.1
Portugal	425	200	44	164	4	13	-13.3
Romania	42472	19388	1016	7710	2446	11912	3.0
Slovakia	1487	452	25	322	225	463	-5.3
Slovenia	1202	525	8	221	74	374	-1.0
Hungary	2581	730	25	686	409	731	-9.4
Finland	454	289	17	127	21	-	-8.3
France	2989	1788	191	750	68	192	-5.7
Czech Rep.	2452	1128	210	421	272	421	-1.3
Sweden	663	329	35	251	16	32	-12.8
Other European countries	104051	33190	2597	5665	17165	45434	4.8
Norway	195	113	7	62	7	6	-9.7
FYROM	24932	13902	1300	427	4357	4946	22.3
Russian Fed.	8313	5407	302	812	1449	343	13.2
Serbia	16859	11083	176	235	1372	3993	23.4
Turkey	47879	1706	744	3644	8114	33671	-8.2
Ukraine	5873	979	68	485	1866	2475	6.4
Other countries	4955	3511	103	1073	218	50	0.1
Israel	2557	2022	14	430	76	15	20.6
Canada	301	209	16	64	11	1	-30.8
USA	1717	1028	68	475	116	30	-12.0
Japan	380	252	5	104	15	4	-14.6
Rest of the world	14229	2667	323	1733	2894	6612	12.5