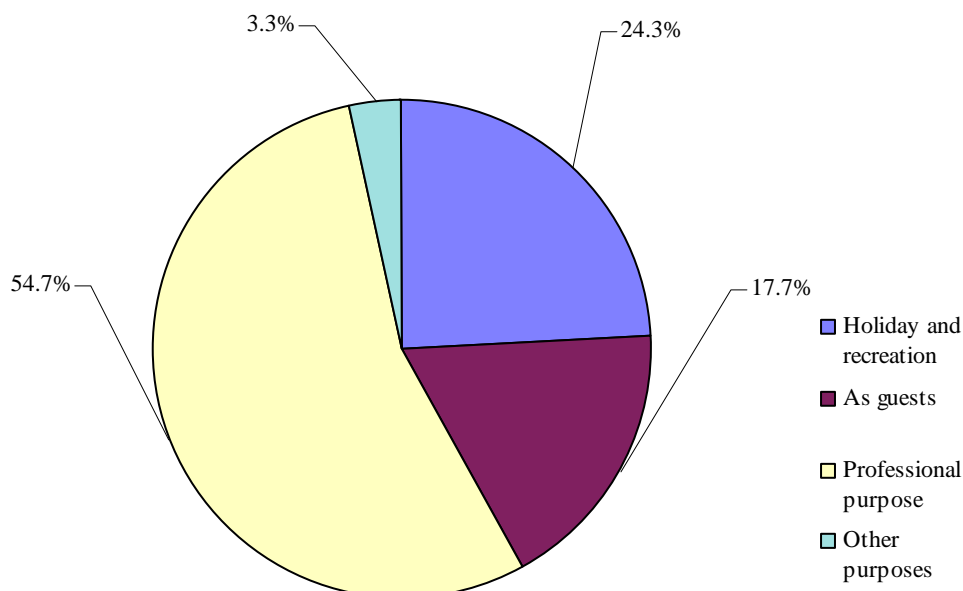




Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad and arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria in April 2009

In April 2009 the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad were 482 929 and increased by 5.9% in comparison with April 2008 (Annex 1). An increase in the number of the trips compared to the same month of 2008 was registered to Greece – by 76.2%, Portugal – by 66.4% and Romania – by 33.9%. A decrease has been registered in the number of trips for the most of all countries. The highest reduction was in the travels to Japan - by 67.4%, Slovenia - by 65.4%, Finland - by 50.0%, Sweden - by 49.7%, USA - by 49.6%, Denmark – by 47.1%, Ukraine - by 45.4%, Slovakia- by 44.1% and other countries. The greatest share of the total trips of the Bulgarian residents travelling abroad was with professional purpose - 54.7%, followed by trips with “holiday and recreation” purpose - 24.3%, visits as guests - 17.7% and other purposes - 3.3%.



Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit in April 2009

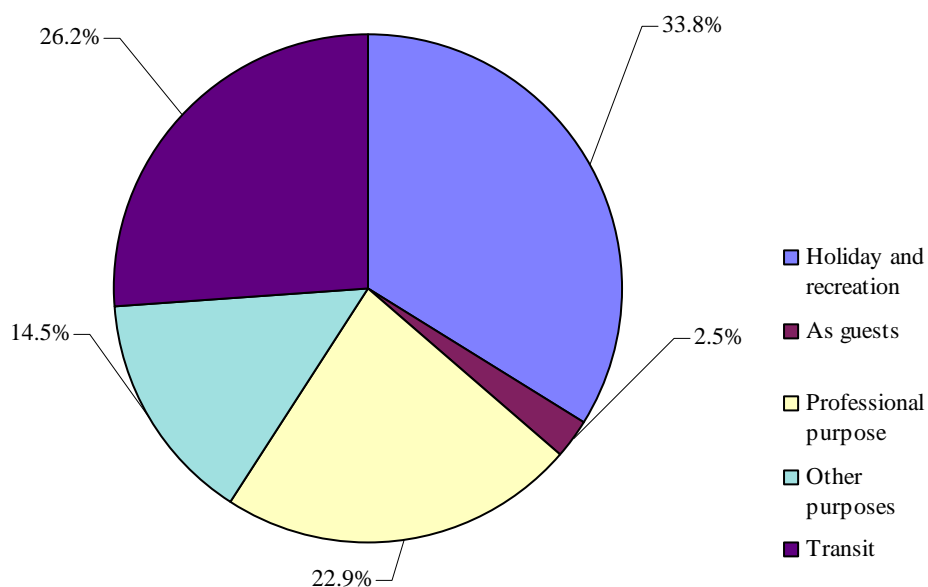
Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria in April 2009 were 485 817 and decreased by 5.4% in comparison with the same month of 2008 (Annex 2).

Concerning Member States the highest decrease of the number of visits was observed for citizens of Denmark - by 37.6%, Malta - by 18.9%, France - by 17.3%, Greece - by 16.3%, Finland - by 14.2% and Cyprus - by 11.5%. At the same time more significant an increase was registered of arrivals from Netherlands - by 7.3%, Austria - by 5.7%, Hungary - by 5.3%, Spain - by 5.2%, Germany - by 4.7%, Belgium - by 4.6% and other countries.

The highest drop in the group of “Other European countries”¹ was observed from Serbia - by 27.0%, Japan - by 22.0% and Turkey - by 15.4%. Compared to the same month of 2008 an increase of the number of the visits of citizens from Ukraine - by 22.4%, Norway - by 18.4% and Canada - by 18.3% have been registered.

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

In April 2009 arrivals with a purpose “holiday and recreation” (33.8%) composed the greatest share of the total number of foreigners’ visits to Bulgaria, followed by “transit” purpose - 26.2%, professional purpose - 22.9%, other purposes - 14.5%, and visits as guests - 2.5%.



Structure of arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad by purpose of visit in April 2009

Methodological notes

Statistical data on the trips of Bulgarian citizens 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 on 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.

**TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD BY PURPOSE OF VISIT AND BY
COUNTRY OF DESTINATION IN APRIL 2009**

(Number)

Country of destination	Total	Purpose of visit				IV 2009 to IV 2008 %
		Holiday and recreation	As guests	Professional	Others	
Total	482929	117115	85703	264291	15820	5.9
EU	306229	76954	17709	204202	7364	23.3
of which :						
Austria	8887	2870	337	5504	176	-39.4
Belgium	4149	920	288	2869	72	-7.4
United Kingdom	13632	2154	1551	8934	993	-12.6
Germany	22451	5958	1060	14924	509	-23.2
Greece	169850	34651	9969	120988	4242	76.2
Denmark	203	45	5	150	3	-47.1
Spain	9965	3353	639	5680	293	-7.3
Italy	11573	4193	547	6578	255	-31.8
Cyprus	2262	307	246	1579	130	-28.9
Malta	348	75	7	260	6	-28.5
Netherlands	2437	697	119	1590	31	-38.0
Poland	2427	1017	171	1229	10	5.7
Portugal	218	162	2	54	0	66.4
Romania	45052	17055	2106	25653	238	33.9
Slovakia	162	30	1	131	0	-44.1
Slovenia	229	65	21	138	5	-65.4
Hungary	3270	976	157	1992	145	2.0
Finland	28	2	1	23	2	-50.0
France	5346	1588	233	3418	107	-17.9
Czech Rep.	3008	731	179	2054	44	-38.6
Sweden	168	38	9	109	12	-49.7
Other European countries	170392	38231	67528	57013	7620	-14.2
Norway	303	86	99	47	71	-10.9
The former Yugoslav Rep.of Macedonia	28675	5293	6670	12518	4194	-19.1
Russian Fed.	2252	272	50	1740	190	-1.3
Serbia	33949	18252	1559	13305	833	-28.9
Turkey	102579	13726	59008	27677	2168	-5.5
Ukraine	805	158	56	517	74	-45.4
Other countries	1440	132	56	692	560	-41.5
Israel	910	103	32	608	167	-37.5
Canada	97	4	5	11	77	-26.5
USA	419	24	18	62	315	-49.6
Japan	14	1	1	11	1	-67.4
Rest of the world	4868	1798	410	2384	276	-28.0

**ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA BY PURPOSE OF VISIT AND
BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN IN APRIL 2009**

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit					IV 2009 to IV 2008 %
		Holiday and recreation	As guests	Professional	Others	Transit	
Total	485817	164408	12332	111242	70556	127279	-5.4
EU	342065	131861	6975	100304	45842	57083	-5.1
of which :							
Austria	7297	2037	125	2901	333	1901	5.7
Belgium	1841	1101	97	336	197	110	4.6
United Kingdom	10335	7198	389	1477	385	886	2.9
Germany	14543	5416	1939	5112	652	1424	4.7
Greece	75896	33321	1505	18418	10937	11715	-16.3
Denmark	1416	977	21	247	38	133	-24.4
Spain	2388	1220	52	688	220	208	5.2
Italy	6731	2476	720	2818	165	552	-2.1
Cyprus	1240	482	53	390	69	246	-11.5
Malta	906	678	3	114	5	106	-18.9
Netherlands	3105	1510	216	814	149	416	7.8
Poland	6696	1605	125	2258	1646	1062	3.1
Portugal	607	218	23	287	33	46	3.9
Romania	189955	65979	1200	58190	28323	36263	-1.9
Slovakia	2502	603	29	869	474	527	2.7
Slovenia	980	559	11	257	109	44	4.5
Hungary	3868	1591	36	1121	701	419	5.3
Finland	738	319	23	295	56	45	-14.2
France	3769	1860	195	1247	290	177	-17.3
Czech Rep.	2336	818	159	514	531	314	2.4
Sweden	1284	614	26	449	111	84	1.2
Other European countries	113347	19261	4784	7957	20335	61010	-9.6
Norway	553	351	0	189	5	8	18.4
The former Yugoslav Rep.of Macedonia	26961	6987	3223	1085	6178	9488	4.3
Russian Fed.	6186	2124	505	1264	1748	545	11.0
Serbia	16532	6585	156	523	1618	7650	-27.0
Turkey	53948	1804	755	3806	8354	39229	-15.4
Ukraine	7527	647	132	678	2383	3687	22.4
Other countries	11401	9518	214	1099	394	176	-5.7
Israel	5574	5123	26	337	70	18	-10.0
Canada	764	574	37	68	45	40	18.3
USA	4517	3405	149	590	265	108	-0.7
Japan	546	416	2	104	14	10	-22.0
Rest of the world	19004	3768	359	1882	3985	9010	19.7