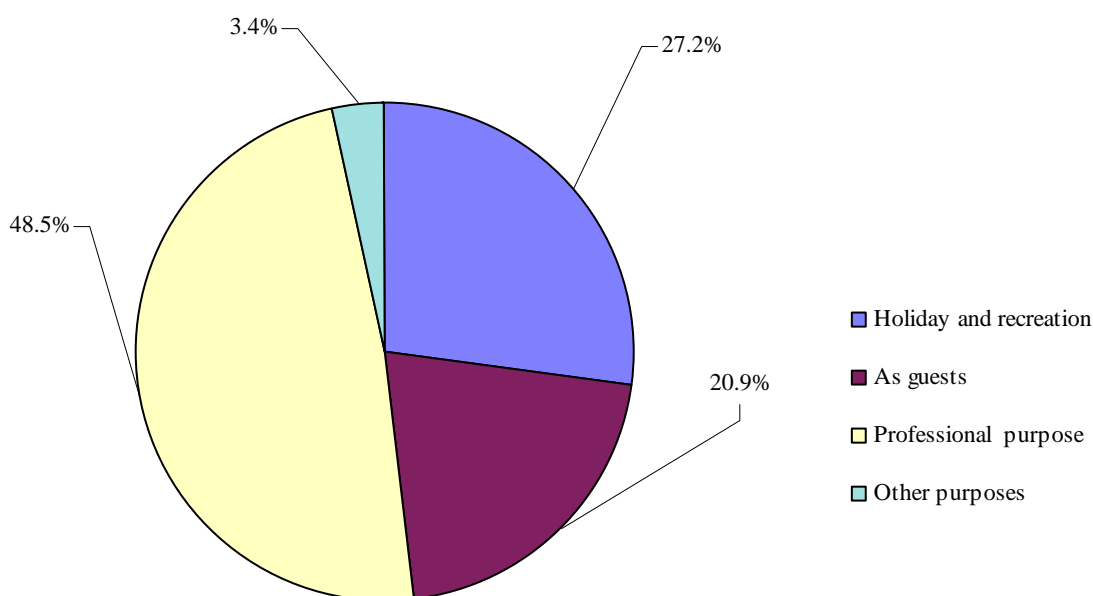




Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad and arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria in May 2009

In May 2009 the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad were 493 228 and decreased by 6.4% in comparison with May 2008 (Annex 1). A decrease has been registered in the number of trips for almost all countries. The highest decline was seen in the trips to Malta - by 83.7%, Japan - by 68.2%, followed by Finland - by 66.4%, USA - by 64.5%, Slovenia - by 59.7%, Czech Rep. - by 58.3%, Denmark - by 53.4%, Cyprus - by 51.7%, Italy - by 49.1%, Ukraine - by 47.3%, Austria - by 46.7% and other countries. At the same time an increase in the number of the trips compared to the same month of 2008 was registered to Greece - by 21.5%, Romania - by 11.5% and Turkey - by 3.4%. The greatest share of the total trips of the Bulgarian residents travelling abroad was with professional purpose - 48.5%, followed by trips with “holiday and recreation” purpose - 27.2%, visits as guests - 20.9% and other purposes - 3.4%.



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

Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria in May 2009 were 558 295 and decreased by 10.1% in comparison with the same month of 2008 (Annex 2).

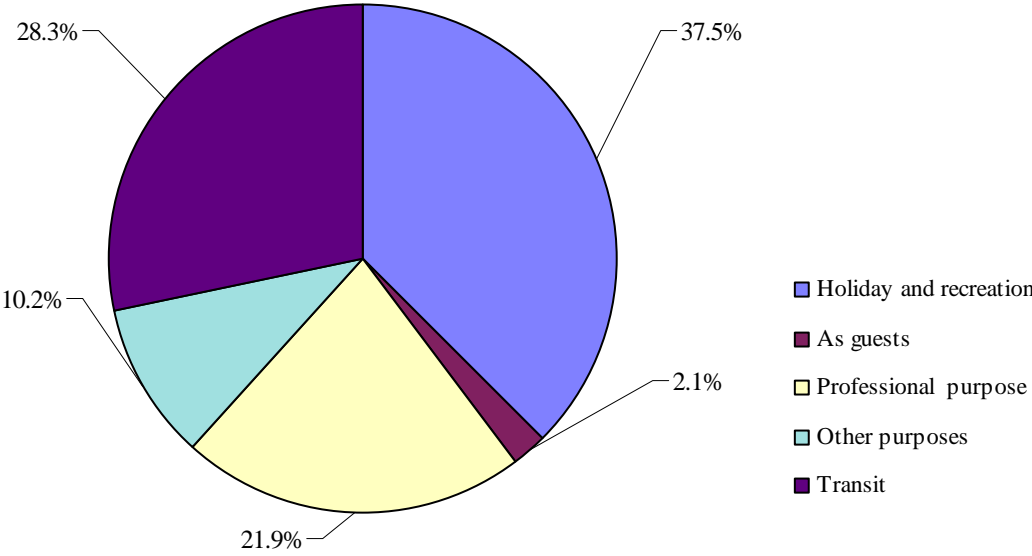
In respect to EU Member States less visits was observed for citizens of Sweden - by 32.0%, Finland - by 27.9%, Malta - by 26.7%, Cyprus - by 24.2%, Romania - by 18.5% and Denmark - by 18.1%. At the same time more significant an increase was registered of arrivals from Czech Rep. - by 19.9%, Greece - by 11.8%, Italy - by 10.6%, Slovakia - by 9.4%, Belgium - by 9.2%, Netherlands - by 9.1% and other countries.

The highest drop in the group of “Other European countries”¹ was observed from Norway - by 65.6%, Serbia - by 34.6% and USA - by 29.6%, while an increase of the number of the visits of citizens from Russian Fed. - by 13.3%, and Ukraine - by 6.1% have been registered.

In May 2009 arrivals with a purpose “holiday and recreation” (37.5%) composed the greatest

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

share of the total number of foreigners' visits to Bulgaria, followed by "transit" purpose - 28.3%, professional purpose - 21.9%, other purposes - 10.2%, and visits as guests - 2.1%.



Structure of arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad by purpose of visit in May 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 MAY 2009**

Country of destination	Total	Purpose of visit				V 2009 to V 2008 %
		Holiday and recreation	As guests	Professional	Others	
Total	493228	134213	102918	239187	16910	-6.4
EU	287696	80459	24322	175369	7546	-4.9
of which :						
Austria	7123	2833	454	3659	177	-46.7
Belgium	2942	814	407	1598	123	-32.0
United Kingdom	11257	2323	1060	6768	1106	-39.8
Germany	18279	5813	1294	10478	694	-37.4
Greece	173407	38903	17542	112895	4067	21.5
Denmark	231	73	20	99	39	-53.4
Spain	7291	2950	364	3722	255	-28.5
Italy	7907	3314	336	4117	140	-49.1
Cyprus	1493	484	154	783	72	-51.7
Malta	101	29	15	52	5	-83.7
Netherlands	2665	1088	235	1224	118	-42.7
Poland	1928	923	82	910	13	-27.0
Portugal	178	74	16	72	16	-6.3
Romania	42614	17455	1783	23097	279	11.5
Slovakia	238	56	10	170	2	-37.7
Slovenia	305	108	6	189	2	-59.7
Hungary	2436	644	228	1343	221	-26.9
Finland	50	3	2	43	2	-66.4
France	4080	1384	155	2421	120	-45.2
Czech Rep.	2423	936	78	1373	36	-58.3
Sweden	254	94	13	133	14	-43.0
Other European countries	198627	51725	78300	60306	8296	-6.5
Norway	251	53	64	67	67	-22.3
FYROM	34541	8397	7003	15368	3773	-8.7
Russian Fed.	1354	228	48	882	196	-42.4
Serbia	38096	22483	1886	12714	1013	-28.1
Turkey	123570	20418	69204	30742	3206	5.3
Ukraine	815	146	95	533	41	-47.3
Other countries	1794	211	66	766	751	-55.8
Israel	842	152	26	515	149	-45.7
Canada	149	11	5	14	119	-38.4
USA	789	46	35	229	479	-64.5
Japan	14	2	-	8	4	-68.2
Rest of the world	5111	1818	230	2746	317	-35.4

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

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit					V 2009 to V 2008 %
		Holiday and recreation	As guests	Profesional	Others	Transit	
Total	558295	209266	11859	122408	56942	157820	-10.1
EU	393186	164448	5669	108354	29272	85443	-8.6
of which :							
Austria	7514	2650	173	2295	355	2041	6.0
Belgium	4987	1887	6	2010	199	885	9.2
United Kingdom	29783	17139	344	7146	545	4609	-8.9
Germany	54785	27455	702	11414	2832	12382	-16.3
Greece	84161	35632	497	33629	9012	5391	11.8
Denmark	3935	2718	25	587	517	88	-18.1
Spain	3053	826	126	1373	173	555	6.9
Italy	10178	3037	178	4832	249	1882	10.6
Cyprus	1869	345	67	615	462	380	-24.2
Malta	680	264	0	292	35	89	-26.7
Netherlands	8251	2454	124	2693	434	2546	9.1
Poland	11085	4437	726	3076	1182	1664	5.5%
Portugal	774	595	0	172	3	4	9.8
Romania	117231	45664	717	22006	11071	37773	-18.5
Slovakia	4433	252	726	1412	379	1664	9.4
Slovenia	1546	278	5	966	53	244	7.9
Hungary	8456	2733	172	3076	257	2218	-4.7
Finland	6334	1112	72	915	234	4001	-27.9
France	14689	7165	584	4369	353	2218	-5.5
Czech Rep.	5129	3163	152	1379	317	118	19.9
Sweden	8529	2026	86	2165	397	3855	-32.0
Other European countries	123993	23894	5263	9080	23041	62715	-14.8
Norway	1100	570	0	343	2	185	-65.6
FYROM	25232	6379	2954	1020	6495	8384	-1.9
Russian Fed.	11205	6203	913	1771	1744	574	13.3
Serbia	15465	6651	140	499	1889	6286	-34.6
Turkey	62172	2559	1051	4475	9953	44134	-16.9
Ukraine	8819	1532	205	972	2958	3152	6.1
Other countries	17966	15544	461	1367	333	261	-17.0
Israel	9348	8767	34	376	101	70	-6.3
Canada	1164	898	83	100	35	48	-25.0
USA	6254	4905	340	725	176	108	-29.6
Japan	1200	974	4	166	21	35	-1.6
Rest of the world	23150	5380	466	3607	4296	9401	-2.7