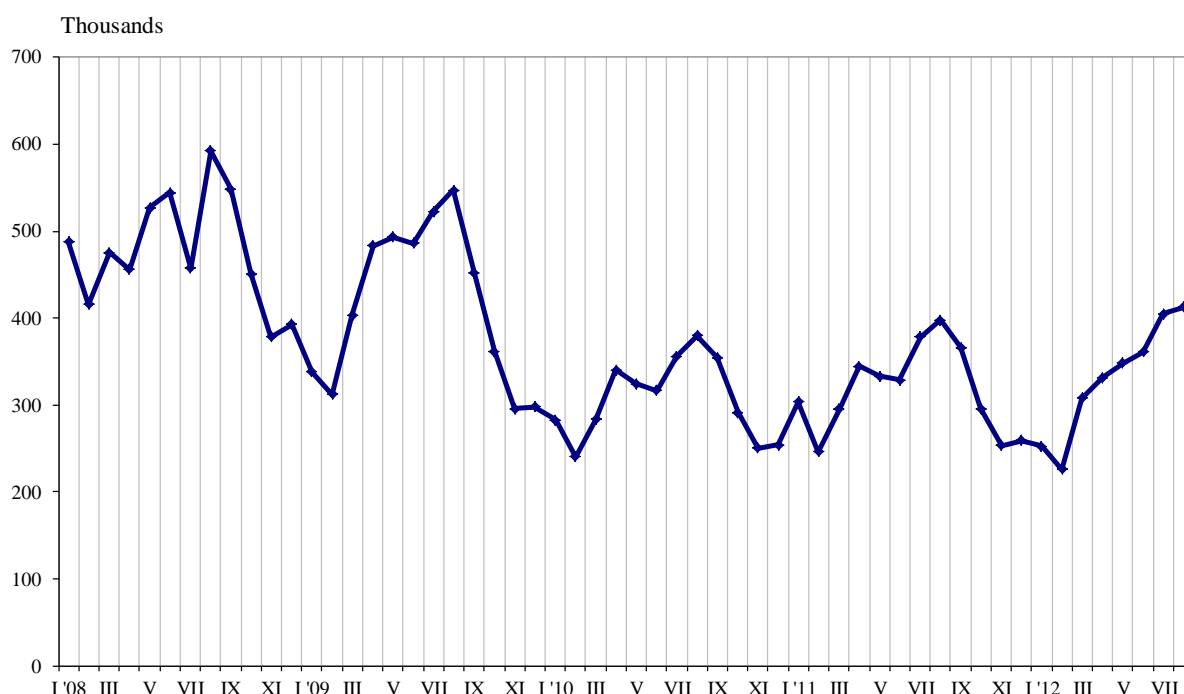




TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN AUGUST 2012

In August 2012 the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad was 412.9 thousand or by 2.1% more than in July 2012 and by 3.8% above the registered in August 2011 (Figure 1). An increase in the total number of the trips of Bulgarian residents compared to the same month of the previous year was reported to: Italy - by 145.2%, Austria - by 131.4%, Spain - by 72.3%, the United Kingdom - by 58.6%, Germany - 45.6% and etc. At the same time a decrease was observed to: Greece – by 32.5%, Serbia - by 8.0% and Turkey - by 7.6% (Annex, Table 1).

Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months

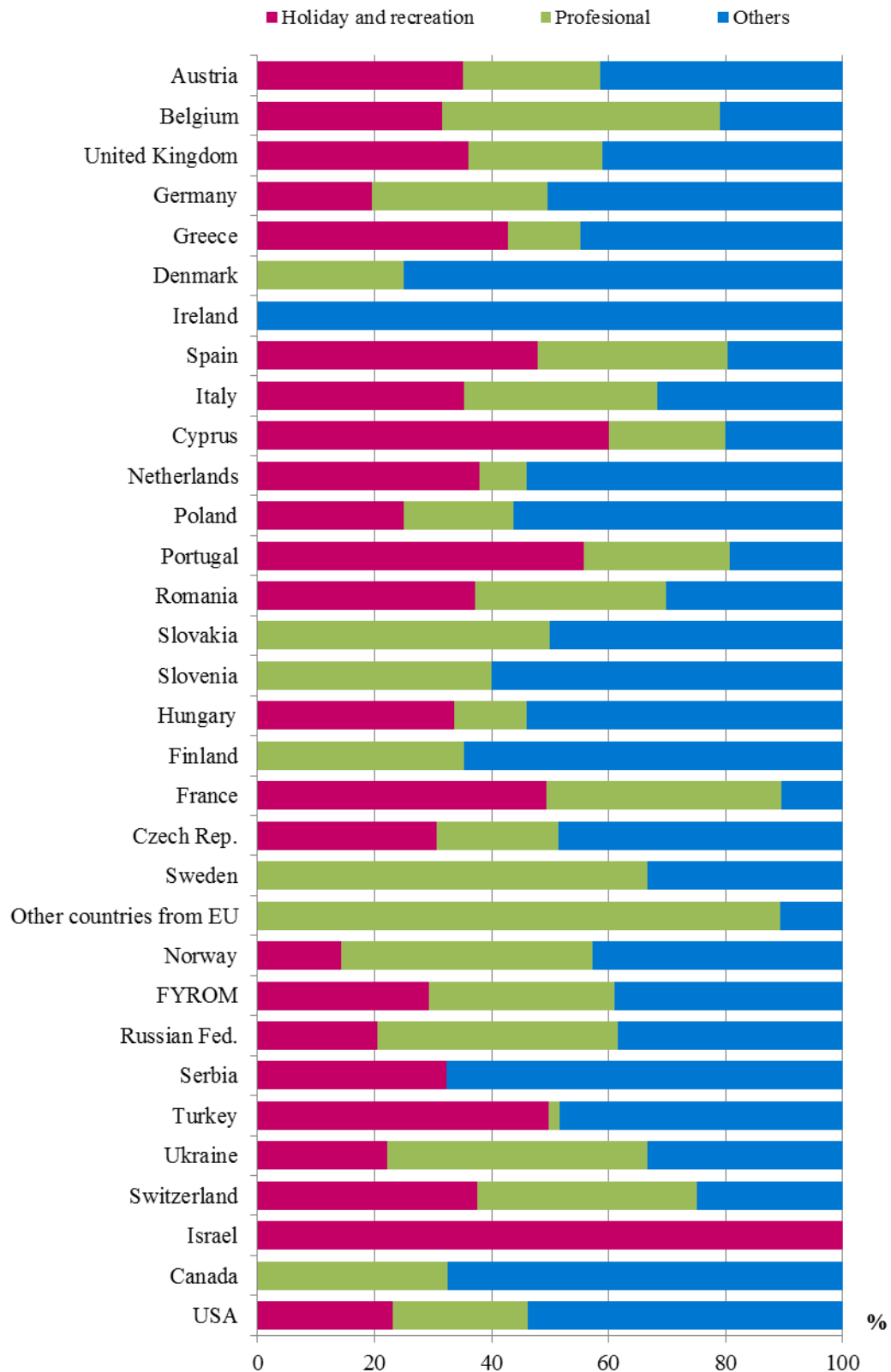


The trips with other purposes (as guest, education and visit the cultural and sport events) composed the greatest share of the total number of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad - 43.6%, followed by the trips with holiday and recreation purposes - 38.8% and with professional purpose - 17.6%. In comparison with August 2011 an increase was observed in the trips with holiday and recreation purpose, as well as these with other purposes rose by 48.4% and 30.2% respectively, while a decrease in the trips with professional purposes was registered - by 52.1%.

In August 2012 the trips with other purposes formed 67.6% from all trips to Serbia, 50.4% - to Germany, 44.8% - to Greece. Predominated share of the trips to Turkey and France was with holiday and recreation purpose - 49.7 and 49.4% respectively, while to Belgium and Russia they were connected with professional purpose - 47.4 and 41.0% respectively of all trips of Bulgarian residents to these countries (Figure 2).



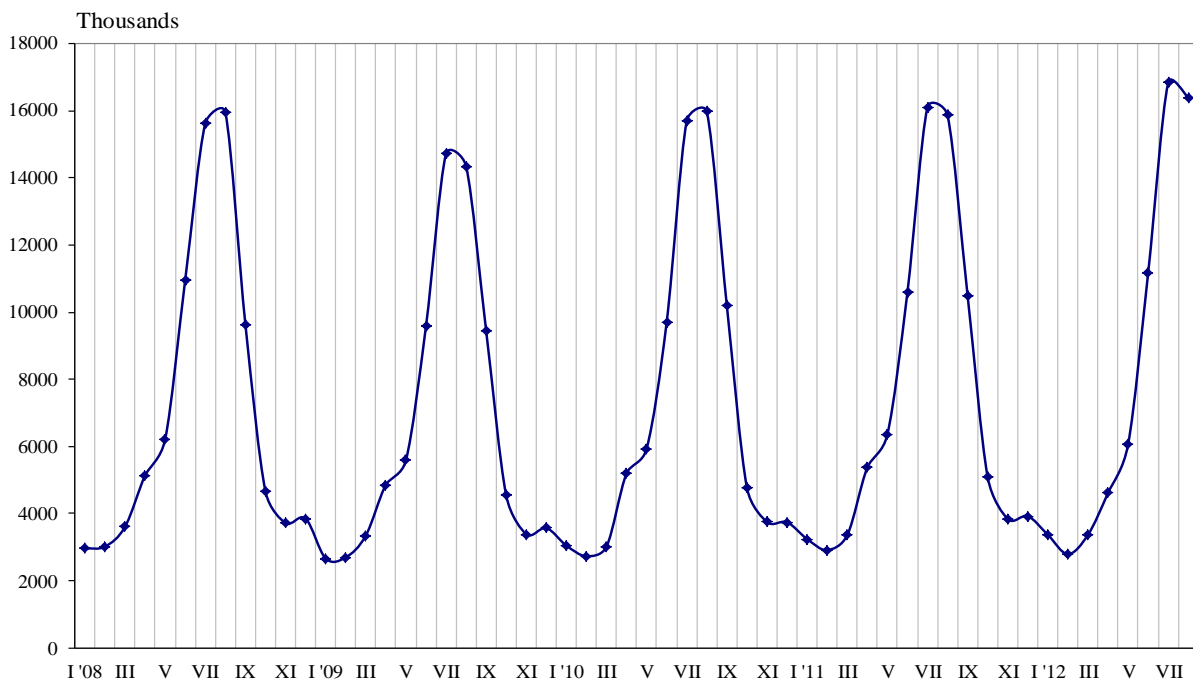
Figure 2. Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit and by countries in August 2012





In August 2012, **the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria** was 1 637.8 thousand which was by 2.7% less compared to July 2012 and by 3.3% above the level from August 2011 (Figure 3). An increase in the visit by all observed purposes was registered, as the greatest was the growth in the visits with professional purpose - by 22.0%, followed by these with other purposes - by 3.4%, and with holiday and recreation purpose - by 2.0%.

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 - 64.3%, followed by these from the other European countries - 28.3% (Annex, Table 2). In comparison with the same month of the previous year the arrivals of visitors from EU Member States decreased by 3.8%. A significant decrease was observed in the visits of the citizens from Spain - by 17.1%, Denmark - by 14.7%, Germany - by 12.5%, Italy - by 5.4% and the United Kingdom - by 5.0%. However a growth in the visits from Greece - by 2.8%, Belgium - by 1.7%, Romania - by 1.1% and Austria - by 1.0% was registered.

The visits of foreigners in the group “Other European countries”¹ increased by 23.3% as the highest growth was observed from Turkey, Ukraine and Russian Federation citizens - by 47.2, 40.5 and 34.1% respectively.

In August 2012 the predominated share of the total number of the visits to Bulgaria were with holiday and recreation purpose - 62.8%, followed by the arrivals with other purposes (including as guest and passing transit) - 32.2% and with professional purpose - 5.0%.

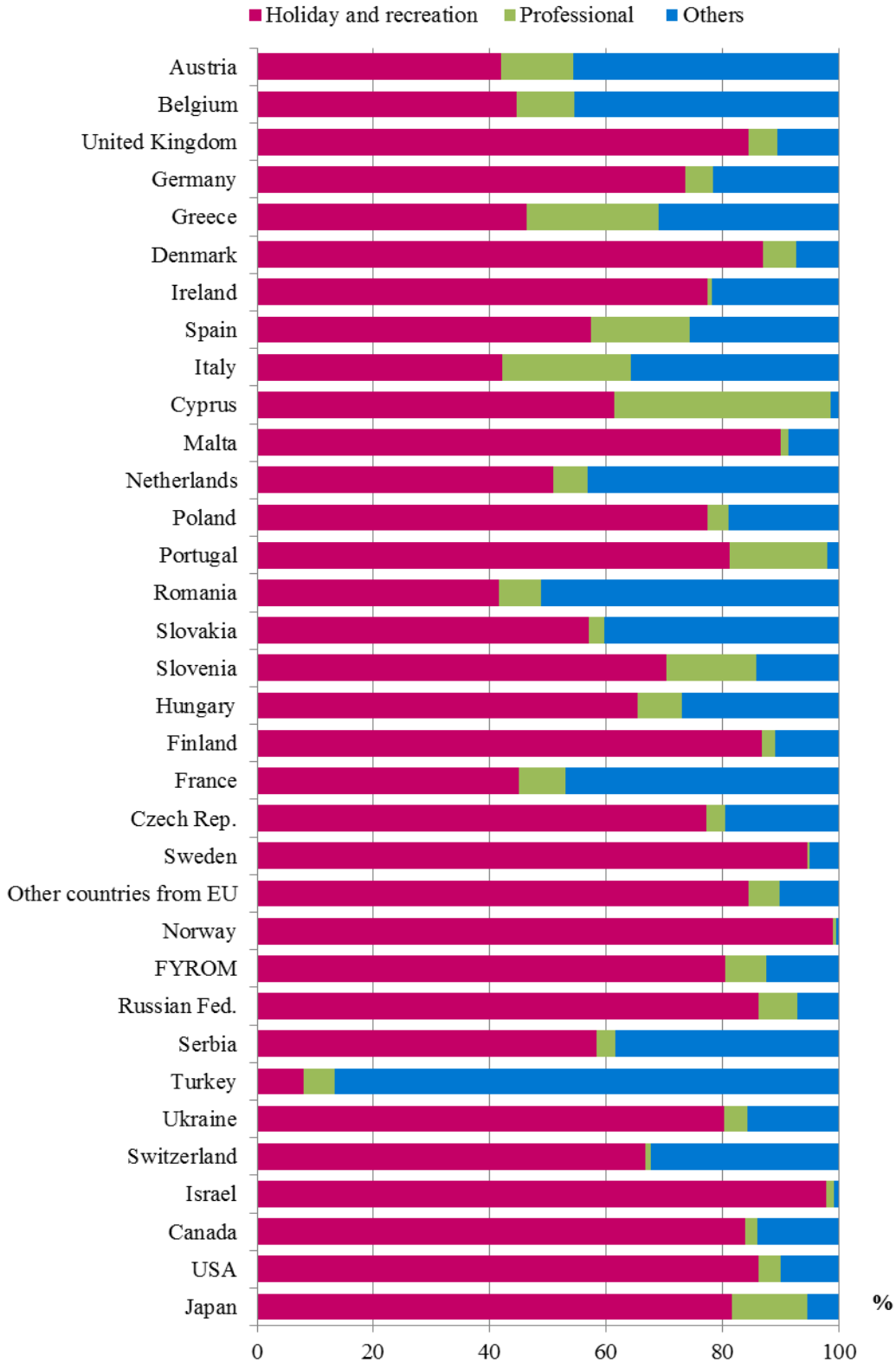
The visits with holiday and recreation purpose formed 87.2% of the arrivals from Russia, 83.3% - from the United Kingdom, 81.5% - from FYROM and 80.8% - from Ukraine. The visits with professional purpose

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



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 were 14.9% of all arrivals from Italy, while with other purpose were 85.7% of the arrivals from Turkey and 43.7% - from Austria (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Structure of the arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad by purpose of visit and by countries in August 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 August 2012

Country of destination	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number			Change in % compared to August 2011
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others	
TOTAL	412932	160045	72700	180187	3,8
EU	223145	80412	55560	87173	10,5
Austria	10811	3795	2530	4486	131,4
Belgium	4194	1324	1986	884	13,1
United Kingdom	12620	4549	2895	5176	58,6
Germany	25082	4909	7540	12633	45,6
Greece	72402	30918	9049	32435	-32,5
Denmark	2469	-	617	1852	417,6
Ireland	1632	-	-	1632	754,5
Spain	16097	7694	5246	3157	72,3
Italy	16678	5893	5486	5299	145,2
Cyprus	300	180	60	60	-78,0
Malta	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	3726	1409	302	2015	34,9
Poland	2357	589	442	1326	18,1
Portugal	1498	834	374	290	487,5
Romania	31082	11565	10120	9397	4,9
Slovakia	1760	-	880	880	784,4
Slovenia	1986	-	794	1192	707,3
Hungary	3051	1024	381	1646	77,1
Finland	636	-	224	412	835,3
France	8403	4152	3364	887	153,2
Czech Rep.	5156	1577	1077	2502	151,3
Sweden	837	-	558	279	218,3
Other countries from EU	368	.	329	39	93,7
Other European countries	182075	76908	15464	89703	-3,7
Norway	1953	279	837	837	502,8
FYROM	30696	8984	9733	11979	3,2
Russian Fed.	3272	671	1342	1259	73,3
Serbia	29175	9439	-	19736	-8,0
Turkey	113744	56496	2259	54989	-7,6
Ukraine	1135	252	505	378	-6,6
Switzerland	2100	787	788	525	98,7
Other countries	3308	1314	612	1382	3,9
Israel	886	886	-	-	9,7
Canada	567	-	184	383	7,6
USA	1855	428	428	999	0,4
Rest of the world	4404	1411	1064	1929	14,9



Table2

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

Country of origin	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number			Change in % compared to August 2011
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others	
TOTAL	1637841	1028444	82187	527210	3.3
EU	1052886	679059	53473	320354	-3.8
Austria	45450	21669	3908	19873	1.0
Belgium	26798	14926	1341	10531	1.7
United Kingdom	49688	41376	2469	5843	-5.0
Germany	207495	157200	7553	42742	-12.5
Greece	129158	64097	12456	52605	2.8
Denmark	15152	11622	728	2802	-14.7
Ireland	5728	4257	18	1453	-2.7
Spain	10926	8756	745	1425	-17.1
Italy	18828	9973	2797	6058	-5.4
Cyprus	2948	2257	528	163	-8.5
Malta	70	52	4	14	4.5
Netherlands	48509	28276	1257	18976	-0.4
Poland	83419	69436	1084	12899	-2.7
Portugal	1475	1224	184	67	-23.6
Romania	209644	91303	12052	106289	1.1
Slovakia	26388	15933	571	9884	-3.3
Slovenia	4972	3827	378	767	-4.4
Hungary	30466	23882	927	5657	-2.6
Finland	11420	9727	94	1599	-2.8
France	42318	27035	3052	12231	-4.7
Czech Rep.	65156	56581	1140	7435	-3.9
Sweden	9796	8927	69	800	-2.6
Other countries from EU	7082	6723	118	241	2.3
Other European countries	463 910	260279	22345	181286	23.3
Norway	13	13	-	-	-99.9
FYROM	40795	33236	2731	4828	2.2
Russian Fed.	137657	120066	7800	9791	34.1
Serbia	47563	29819	1637	16107	15.4
Turkey	161494	15391	7638	138465	47.2
Ukraine	76364	61737	2539	12088	40.5
Switzerland	24	17	-	7	-99.8
Other countries	31823	29416	1001	1406	-31.0
Israel	19189	18816	215	158	-45.4
Canada	2316	1956	76	284	-2.5
USA	8880	7401	593	886	17.9
Japan	1438	1243	117	78	30.3
Rest of the world	89222	59690	5368	24164	29.7