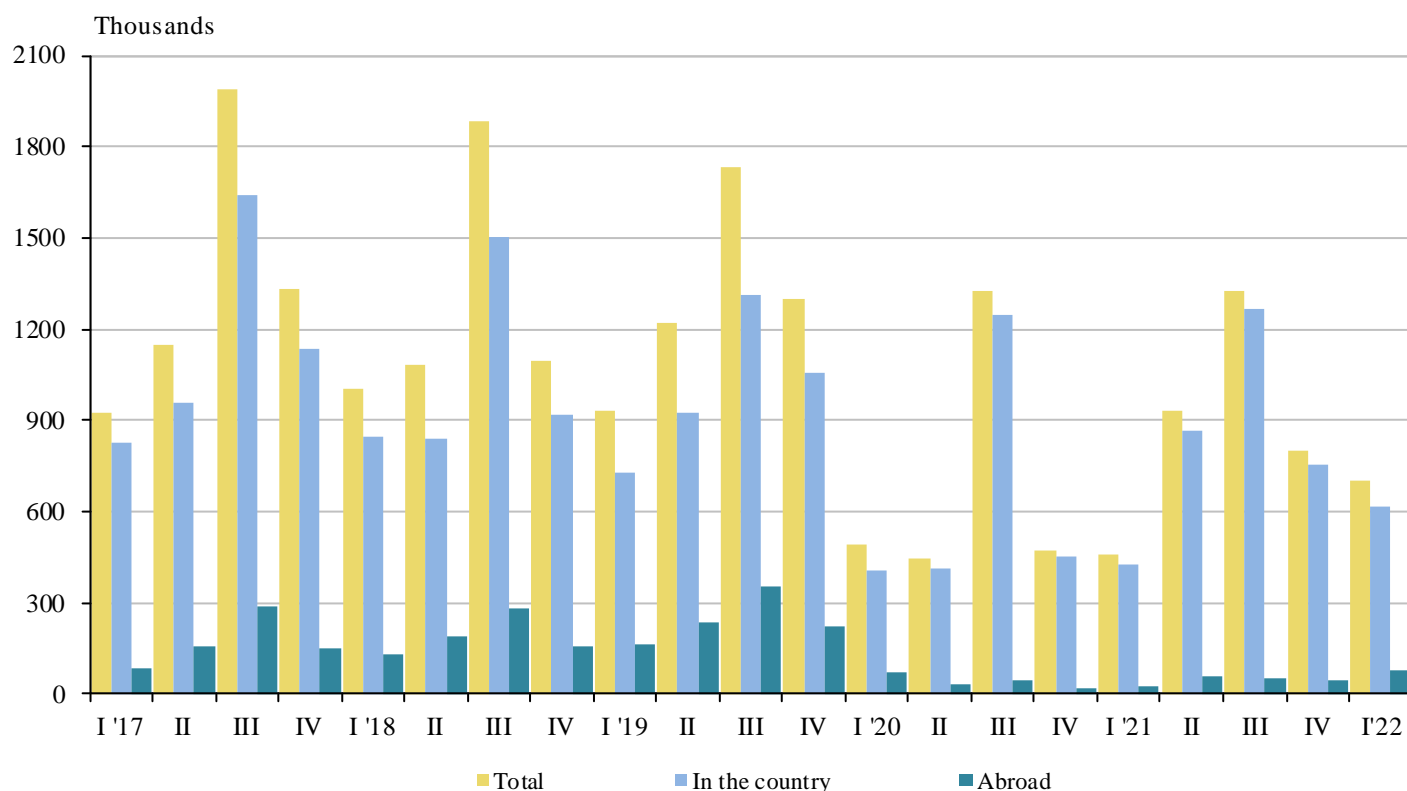


TOURIST TRIPS AND TOURISM-RELATED EXPENDITURE OF THE POPULATION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2022 (PRELIMINARY DATA)

In the first quarter of 2022, during the continuing epidemic situation in the country, 703.4 thousand Bulgarian residents¹ made tourist trips². The majority - 87.9% of them travelled only within the country, 10.8% - only abroad and 1.3% - both within the country and abroad. Compared to the same quarter of 2021, the total number of the travelled persons aged 15 and over increased by 53.9% (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Travelled persons aged 15 and over by quarters

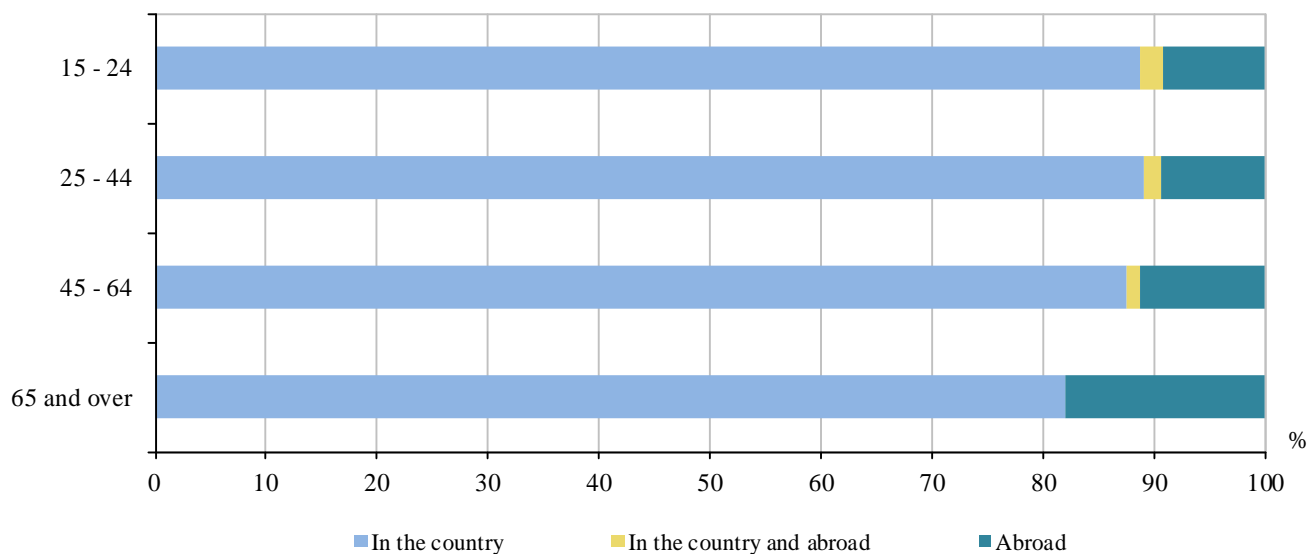


In the first quarter of 2022, most Bulgarians aged 25 - 44 years travelled - 313.1 thousand, or 44.5% of all travelled persons. In all age groups predominated the share of the trips in the country, as the highest (89.1%) was the share among persons aged 25 - 44. The share of residents who travelled abroad aged 65 and over was 18.0% of the travelled in this group and the highest compared to other age groups (Figure 2).

¹ The objects of the survey are the residents of 15 years age and over.

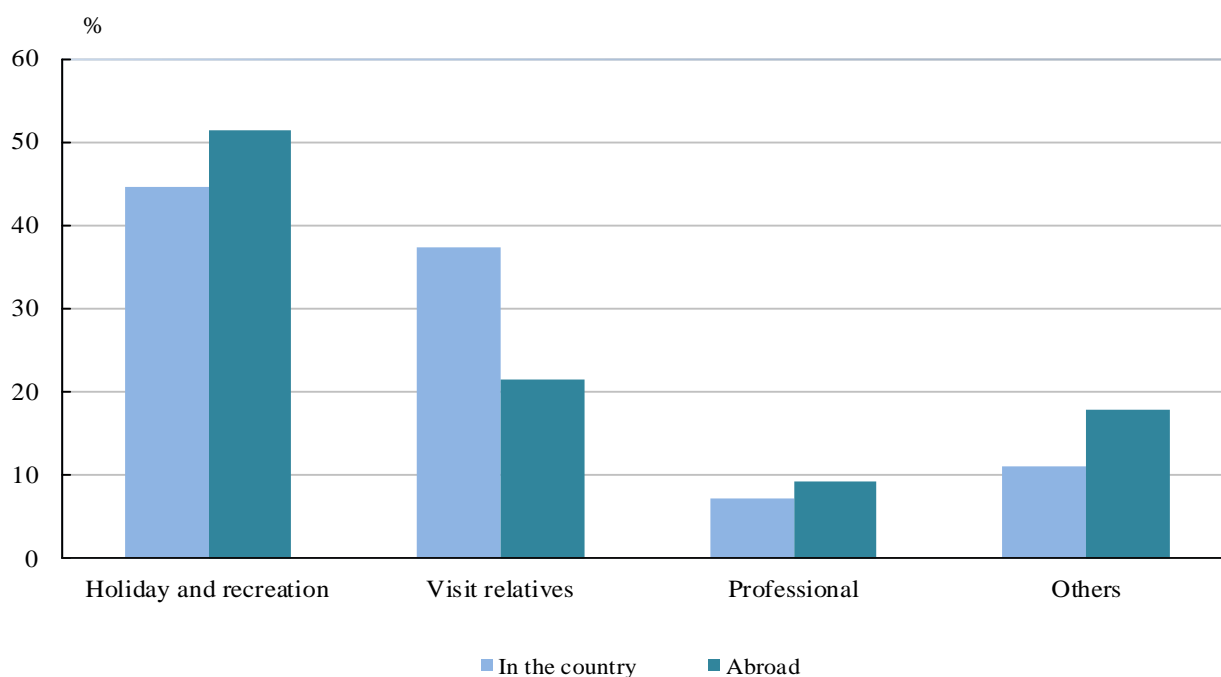
² It included trips with private and professional purposes.

Figure 2. Travelled persons aged 15 and over by age groups in the first quarter of 2022



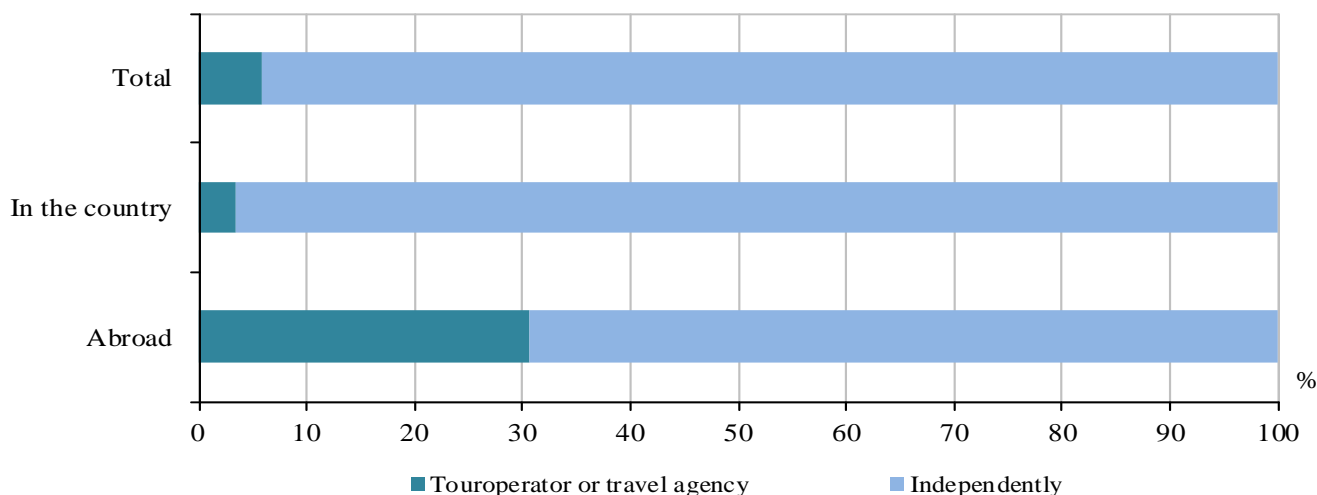
The majority of tourist trips of persons aged 15 and over in the country (44.5%) and abroad (51.4%) were for ‘holiday and recreation’ (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Structure of the tourist trips by purposes in the country and abroad in the first quarter of 2022



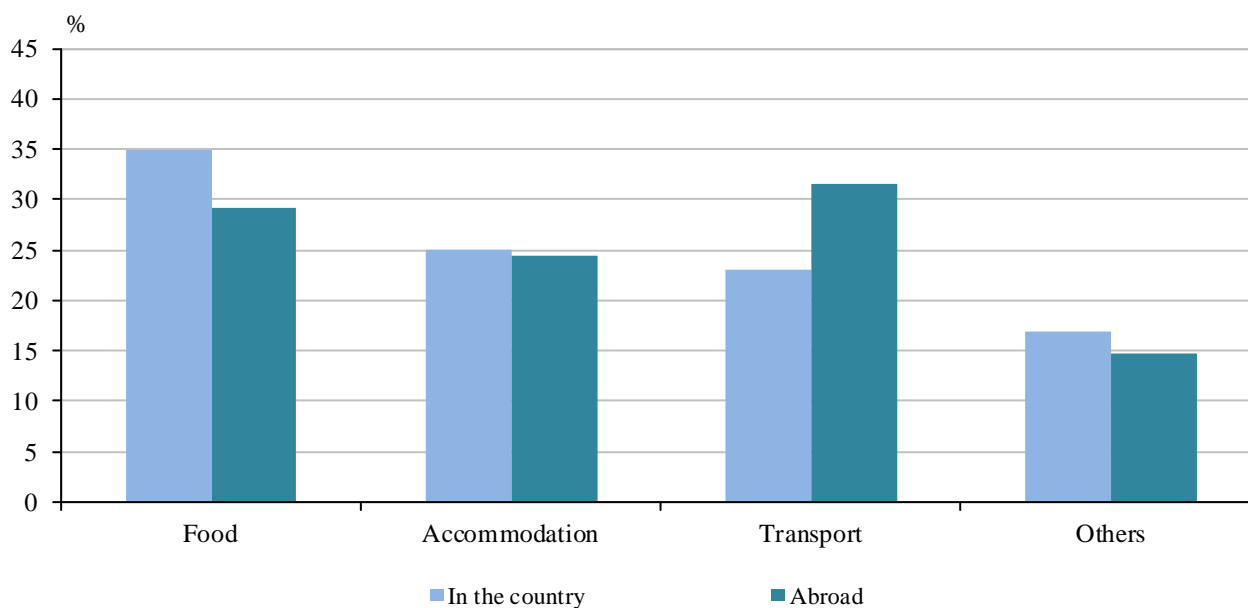
In the first quarter of 2022, 925.7 thousand, or 94.2% of the total number of private tourist trips, were registered as independent. The relative share of independent travels without booking in the country was 96.6%, while those abroad - 69.3% (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Tourist trips with private purpose by arrangement of the trip in the first quarter of 2022



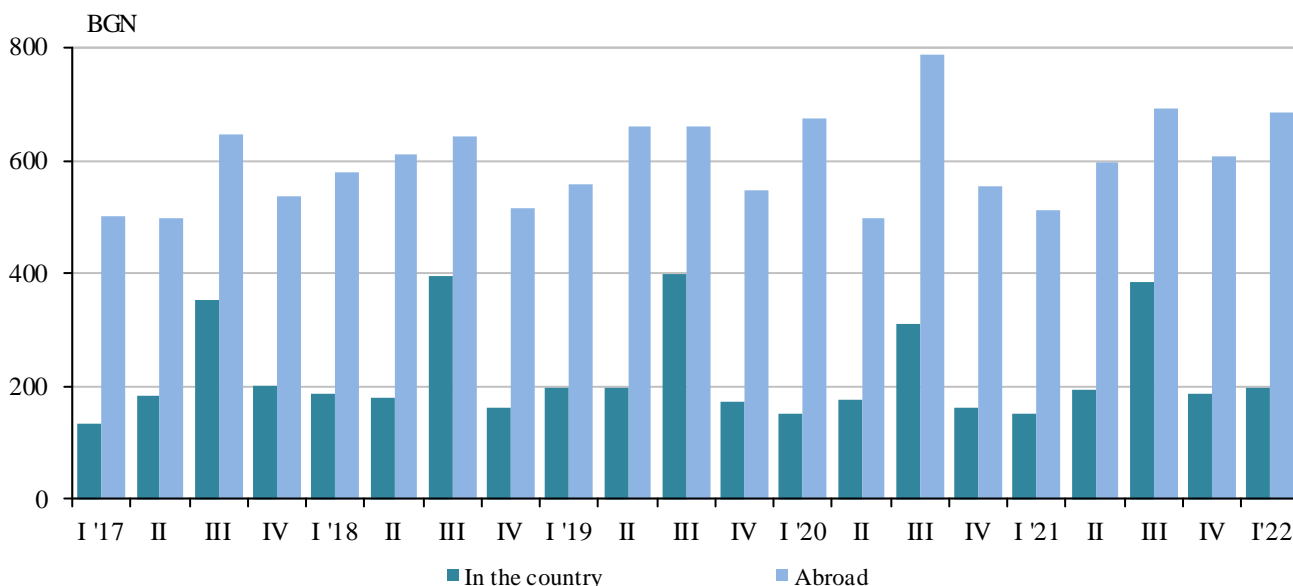
In the expenditure structure by type, with highest relative share was the expenditure on food on domestic trips - 34.9%, while on outbound trips was on transport - 31.5% (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Structure of the expenditure for domestic and outbound tourist trips in the first quarter of 2022



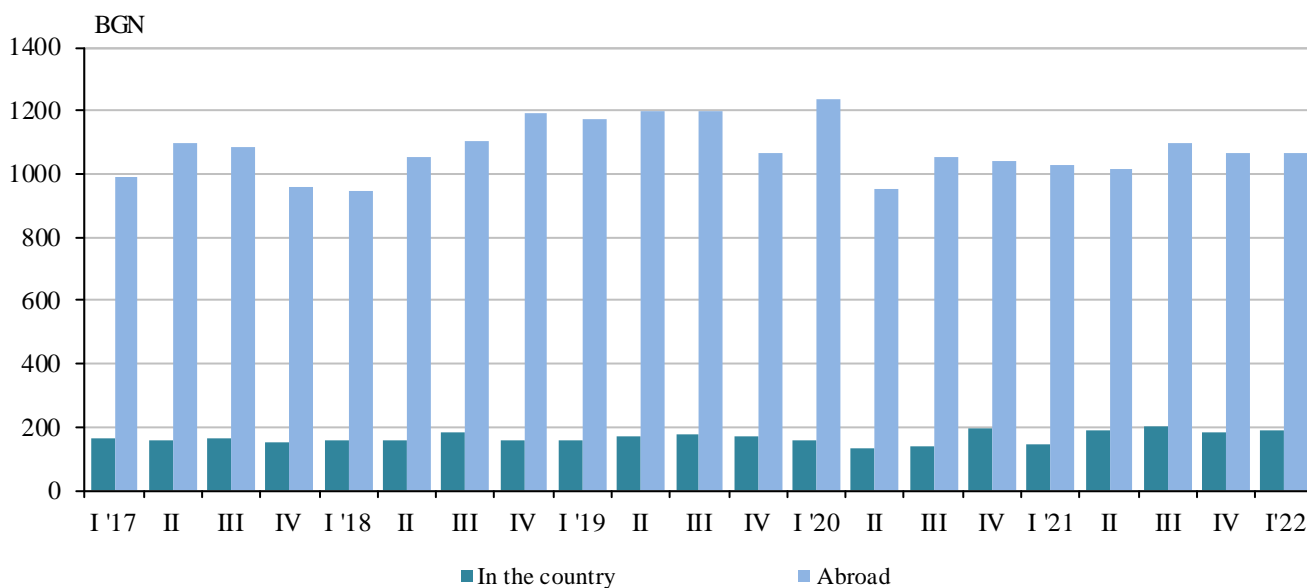
In the first quarter of 2022, a person aged 15 and over spent on average for a private trip 198.26 BGN in the country and 684.85 BGN for a private trip abroad (Figure 6).

Figure 6. The average expenditure for private trips per person by quarters



At the same time, the average expenditure per person for a professional trip was 188.05 BGN in the country and 1 064.84 BGN for a professional trip abroad (Figure 7).

Figure 7. The average expenditure for professional trips per person by quarters





Methodological notes

Since 2012, the survey of the tourist trips and tourism-related expenditure of the population has been carried out in compliance with Regulation 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning European statistics on tourism and Commission implementing Regulation 1051/2011 implementing Regulation 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning European statistics on tourism, as regards the structure of the quality reports and the transmission of the data.

The survey is representative and is conducted on the basis of a households' sample in the country. The objects of the survey are residents aged 15 and older in Bulgaria. All persons aged 15 and older, members of the selected households are interviewed. For the estimation of the survey's results, current demographic data on the total population aged 15 and older by place of residence (urban/rural), sex and age groups as of the end of 2021 are used.

Tourist trips - every private or professional trip taken by people outside of the place where they live for a period of no more than one year, with a main purpose different from any activity for payment.

The tourist trips can be as follows:

Private - holidays, cultural visits and sport events, medical treatment, education, religious activities, visits of relatives and friends, and others.

Professional - business trips and deals, participation in conferences, congresses and seminars, and others.

A visitor is a traveller, taking a trip to a main destination outside his/her usual environment for no longer than one year, whose main purpose is not doing any activities for payment. People travelling daily or weekly for work, study, shopping, visiting a physician, and others are excluded from the definition of a visitor.

The usual environment of a person includes places located near his/her home as well as frequently visited places. It has two aspects - the vicinity and the frequency of the visits. Places located close to the place of residence of a person are part of the usual environment, even if they are rarely visited. For example, even if the place where the villa or vacation house is located is near to home, but is rarely visited, it is part of the usual environment of a person.