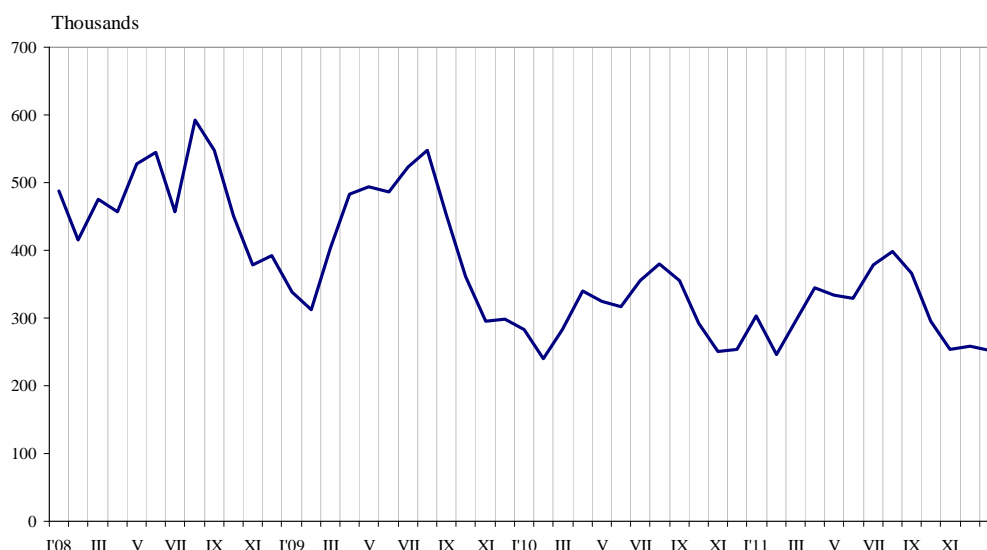




TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS IN ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN JANUARY 2012

In January 2012 the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents in abroad was 252.8 thousand or by 2.4% less compared to December 2011 (Figure 1). An increase in the total number of the trips Bulgarian residents was registered to: the United Kingdom - by 15.0%, Spain - by 13.1%, Austria - by 10.5%, Italy - by 9.4%, Germany - by 8.1%, Romania - by 8.1% and etc. At the same time greater decrease was observed to: France - by 21.1% and FYROM - by 10.8%.

Figure.1. Trips of Bulgarian residents in abroad by months

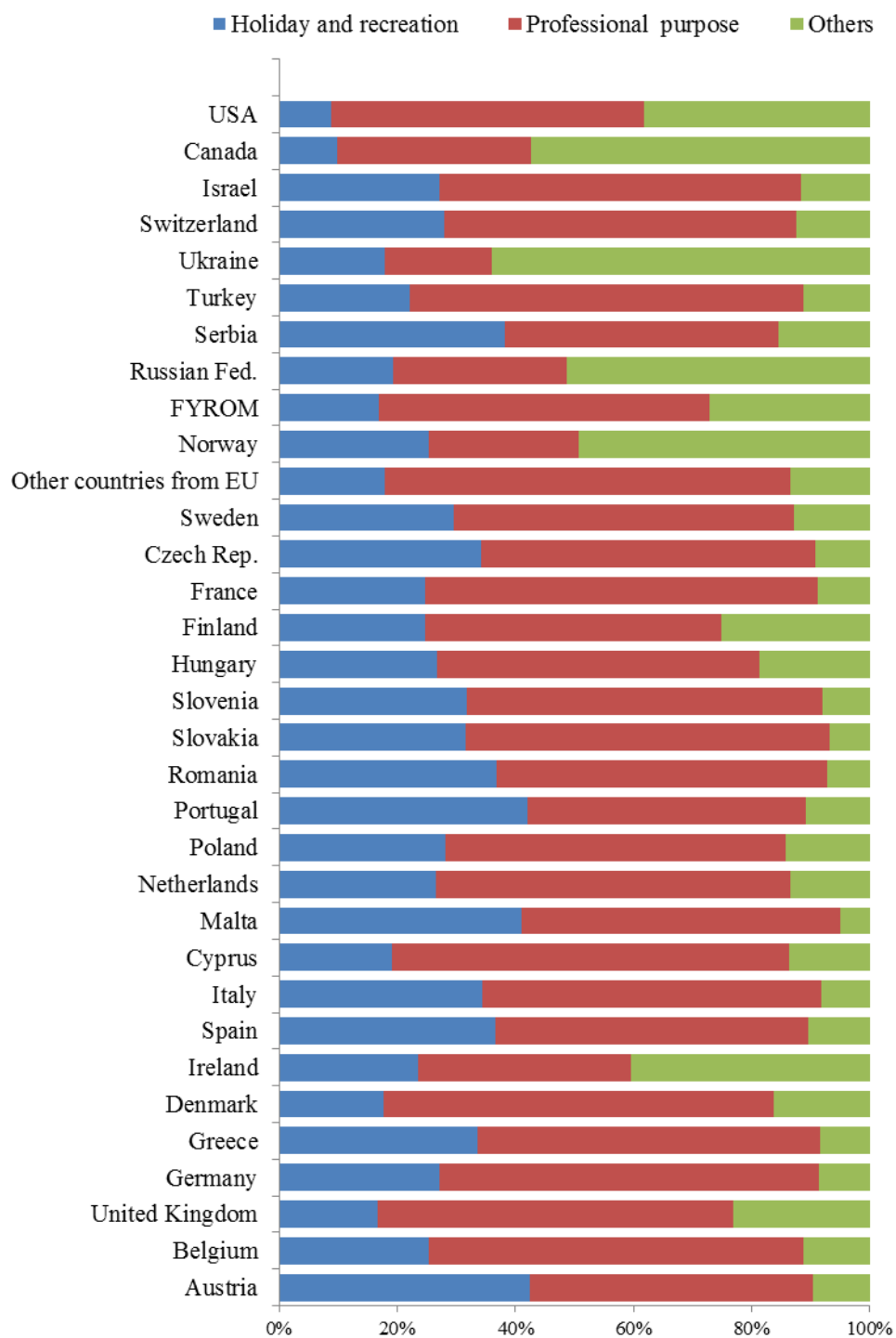


The trips with professional purpose composed the greatest share of the total number of trips of Bulgarian residents in abroad - 45.7%, followed by the trips with other purposes (as guest, education and visit the cultural and sport events) - 27.6% and holiday and recreation purpose - 26.7%. The trips with professional purpose increased by 11.0%, while a drop in the trips with holiday and recreation purpose and with other purposes was registered - by 10.1% and 9.6% respectively.

In January 2012 the trips with professional purpose formed 74.7% from all trips to Germany, 64.8% - to Greece, 62.2% - to Italy, and 52.2% - to Spain. Predominated share of the trips to Turkey was with holiday and recreation purpose (51.1%) while the trips to the United Kingdom and FYROM connected with other purpose of visits were 24.7% and 25.4% respectively of all trips of Bulgarian residents to these countries.



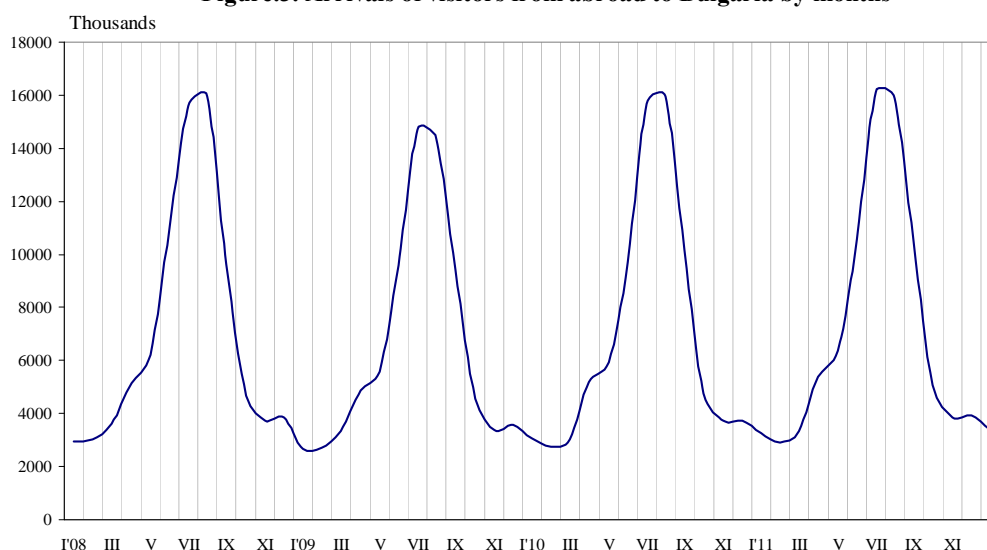
Figure 2. Structure of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit and by countries in January 2012





In January 2012, the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria was 337.1 thousand which was by 14.1% less than in December 2011 (Figure 3). An increase was registered in the visits with holiday and recreation purpose, and professional purpose - by 12.2% and 3.8% respectively, while the visits with other purposes decreased by 16.0%.

Figure.3. Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria by months



In January 2012, the arrivals of visitors from EU Member States decreased by 27.5% in comparison with the previous month. However a growth was registered in the visits from the United Kingdom - by 67.4%, Italy - 22.1%, Greece - 13.4% and Germany - 9.4%. A significant decrease was observed in the visits to the citizens from Rumania - by 76.4%.

The visits of foreigners in the group “Other European countries”¹ increased by 3.9% as the highest growth was observed from FYROM - by 25.1% and Russian Federation citizens - by 18.0%.

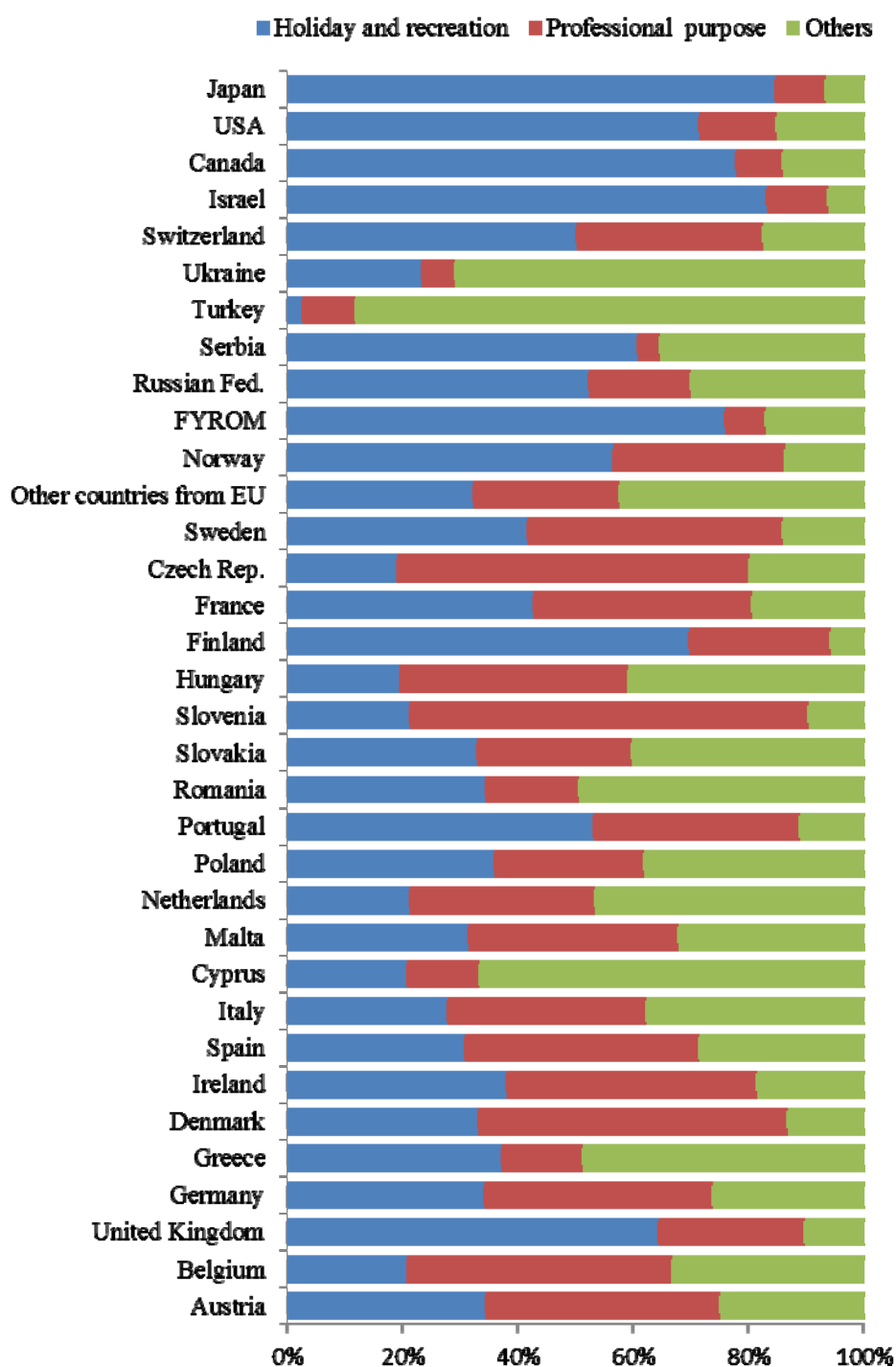
In January 2012 the visitors with holiday and recreation purpose composed the greatest relative share of the total number of foreigners visited Bulgaria - 49.0%, followed by the arrivals with other purposes (including as guest and passing transit) - 32.0% and professional purpose - 19.0%.

The visits with holiday and recreation purpose formed 63.5% of the arrivals from the Russian Federation and 59.8% from the United Kingdom. The visits with professional purpose were 60.7% of all arrivals from Austria. With other purpose were 84.8% of the arrivals from Turkey.

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



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

Country of origin	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number			Change in % compared to December 2011
		Holiday and recreation	Profesional	Others	
TOTAL	252847	67371	115546	69 930	-2,4
EU	133 901	33 751	86 150	14 000	1,5
Austria	5 376	2 081	2 739	556	10,5
Belgium	2 287	333	1 662	292	6,2
United Kingdom	7 035	752	4 547	1 736	15,0
Germany	12 353	1 903	9 223	1 227	8,2
Greece	64 734	16 766	41 952	6 016	-2,6
Denmark	180	2	143	35	27,7
Ireland	34	-	16	18	30,8
Spain	6 813	2 558	3 556	699	13,1
Italy	5 846	1 689	3 636	521	9,4
Cyprus	1 178	236	784	158	28,0
Malta	109	37	66	6	28,0
Netherlands	1 554	110	1 180	264	-32,3
Poland	1 087	113	780	194	-2,5
Portugal	107	37	57	13	0,3
Romania	20 023	6 475	12 000	1 548	8,1
Slovakia	128	27	91	10	-1,1
Slovenia	135	24	98	13	-14,1
Hungary	1 317	270	779	268	-0,7
Finland	45	9	24	12	-1,4
France	1 799	12	1 579	208	-21,1
Czech Rep.	1 585	277	1 126	182	-0,7
Sweden	124	31	76	17	-0,8
Other countries from EU	52	9	36	7	44,2
Other European countries	116 672	32 841	28 462	55 369	-5,8
Norway	59	13	31	15	59,5
FYROM	17 765	2 709	5 486	9 570	-10,8
Russian Fed.	775	140	475	160	-1,9
Serbia	21 441	10 947	8 990	1 504	-4,4
Turkey	75 194	18 825	12 453	43 916	-5,1
Ukraine	660	122	445	93	4,1
Switzerland	778	85	582	111	-8,9
Other countries	614	161	165	288	-12,7
Israel	265	53	123	89	-28,0
Canada	79	3	7	69	25,4
USA	270	105	35	130	-0,7
Rest of the world	1 660	618	769	273	-32,5



Table2

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

Country of origin	Total - number	Purpose of visit - number			Change in % compared to December 2011
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others	
TOTAL	337 085	165 023	64 240	107 822	-14,1
EU	158 880	80 567	50 006	28 307	-27,5
Austria	5 761	1 310	3 497	954	5,5
Belgium	2 951	817	645	1 489	108,8
United Kingdom	13 482	8 066	3 066	2 350	67,1
Germany	12 113	4 532	4 073	3 508	10,4
Greece	77 015	42 090	26 397	8 528	13,4
Denmark	654	185	412	57	-12,7
Ireland	1 148	1 059	75	14	58,1
Spain	1 487	343	714	430	-48,4
Italy	6 492	2 572	2 104	1 816	22,1
Cyprus	1 053	-	410	643	-24,4
Malta	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	197	104	68	25	-92,1
Poland	3 171	1 408	621	1 142	-26,1
Portugal	160	85	0	75	-42,2
Romania	22 164	12 776	4 818	4 570	-76,4
Slovakia	825	546	219	60	-58,7
Slovenia	975	387	223	365	46,0
Hungary	1 749	604	928	217	-28,8
Finland	541	269	147	125	61,0
France	4 757	2 186	1 083	1 488	51,7
Czech Rep.	1 292	834	217	241	-45,3
Sweden	781	364	252	165	-12,3
Other countries from EU	112	30	37	45	-88,8
Other European countries	148 453	72 410	10 861	65 182	3,9
Norway	263	59	145	59	-29,3
FYROM	45 387	37 509	2 232	5 646	25,1
Russian Fed.	15 430	9 798	2 327	3 305	18,0
Serbia	25 192	17 482	819	6 891	-5,9
Turkey	50 955	2 885	4 866	43 204	-8,5
Ukraine	10 856	4 445	404	6 007	12,3
Switzerland	370	232	68	70	-61,9
Other countries	5 875	4 469	839	567	3,9
Israel	2 673	2 213	337	123	23,4
Canada	417	295	50	72	1,0
USA	2 290	1 564	382	344	-10,6
Japan	495	397	70	28	-2,9
Rest of the world	23 877	7 577	2 534	13 766	-3,7