

TOURIST TRIPS AND TOURISM - RELATED EXPENDITURE OF THE POPULATION

1. Purpose of the survey

The main purpose of the survey on tourist trips of Bulgarian residents in the country and abroad and the expenditure made by them is to provide different information about the purposes of their trips in the country and abroad.

The methodology used in statistical surveys on tourism is in compliance with the 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.

Till the end of 2011 the Council Directive 95/57 EC on data collection in the field of tourism was in use.

2. Main definitions

Tourist trips - every private or professional trip outside the place of the residents for no more than one year and whose main purpose is not doing any activity for payment.

The **purposes of visiting** on tourist trips are following:

Private trips - holiday, excursion, visit culture and sport events, medical treatment, education, visit relatives and friends, religion activities and others.

Professional tourist trips - business trip, participation in conference, congress and seminars, conclude bargains and others.

3. Object and coverage of the survey

The object of the survey is the residents of 15 years age and over in Bulgaria. The statistical survey is a sample survey and the sample includes households in the country. All persons of 15 years age and over, members of the selected households are interviewed.

4. Sampling design and sampling size

The sample used for the survey is a stratified by urban/rural areas two-stage cluster sample with clusters on the first stage - enumeration districts of February 2011 Population Census and on the second - households. The sample size is 3 000 non-institutional households or about 5 250 persons aged 15 years and over.

For weighting and adjustment the results from the survey the current demographic data for total population by urban/ rural areas, sex and age groups are used.

5. Stochastic reliability of data

Due to the sampling approach used in the survey, the estimation of the parameters obtained from the survey could vary from those in the population. Standard errors, coefficients of variation and confidence intervals are calculated for assessment of stochastic reliability of the estimation for main indicators.

6. Periodicity.

The survey is conducted regularly from beginning of 2008. The data of the survey are carried out quarterly.

7. Publicity and transparency

- Access to the applied methodology

All publications of the NSI with data from the survey contains short methodological notes to the basic concepts.

- Press release

The survey results are disseminated with press release, which is published on the Internet website of NSI quarterly.

- Publications

The results of statistical survey on tourist trips and tourism - related expenditure of the population are published in the publications Statistical Reference Book and Statistical Yearbook of the NSI.

- Electronic access

Current tables with key results of the survey are published on the Internet website of NSI quarterly.