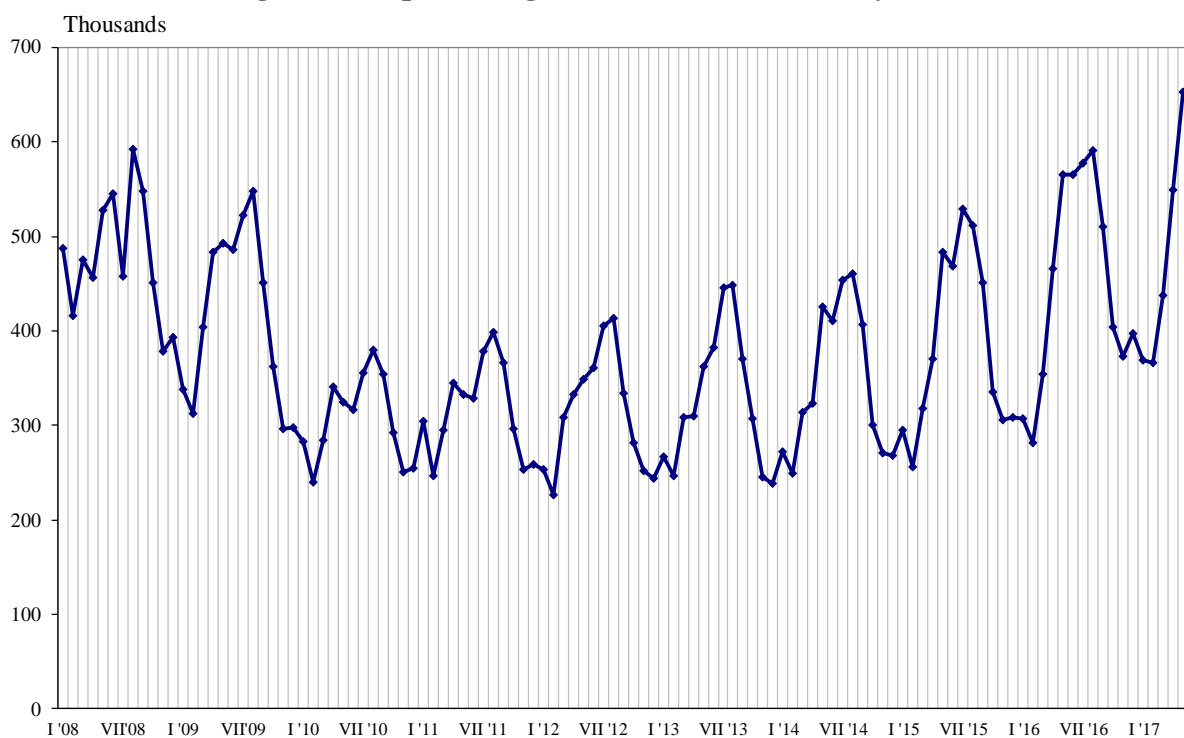




TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN JUNE 2017

In June 2017, **the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad** was 618.9 thousand (Annex, Table 1) or by 9.5% above the registered in June 2016 (Figure 1). In comparison with the same month of the previous year an increase was observed in the total number of the trips of Bulgarians to: Italy - by 30.2%, Spain - by 19.4%, Austria - by 15.3%, Czech Republic - by 14.5%, Romania - by 12.5%, Belgium - by 12.5%, Serbia - by 10.2%, France - by 6.9%, Greece - by 6.7%, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - by 6.6%, Germany - by 6.6%, Turkey - by 1.3%, and etc. At the same time decreased the number of the trips of Bulgarians to: Israel - by 7.1%, USA - by 4.1%, Poland - by 1.8%, and etc.

Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months

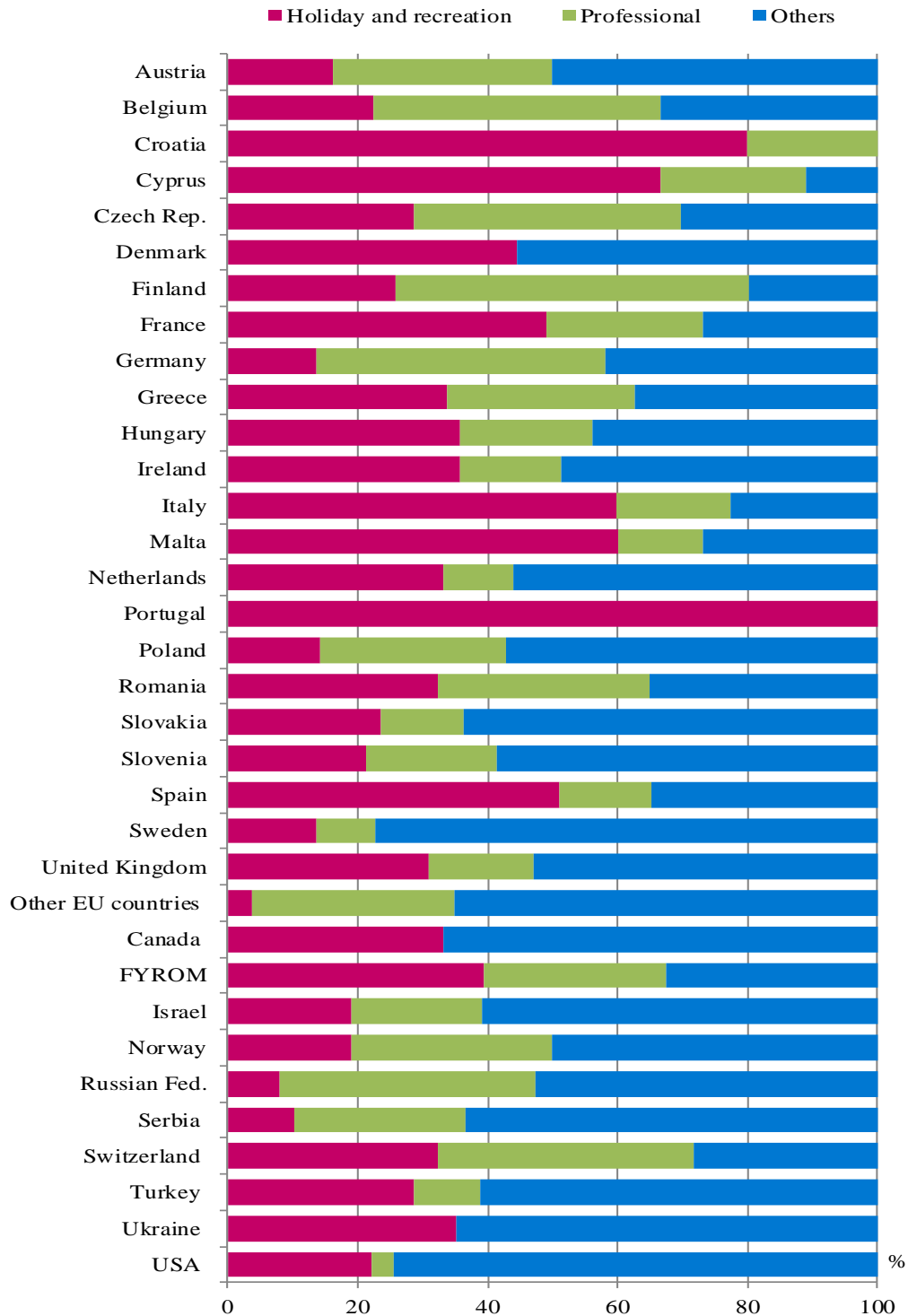


The trips with other purposes (as a guest, education and visit the cultural and sport events) in June 2017 composed the greatest share of the total number of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad - 45.5%, followed by the trips with holiday and recreation purpose - 30.6%, and with professional purpose - 23.9%. In comparison with June 2016, an increase was registered in the trips with all observed purposes: with other purposes - by 19.0%, with holiday and recreation purpose - by 3.1%, and with professional purpose - by 2.1%.

In June 2017, the trips with other purposes formed 63.3% of all trips to Serbia and 61.1% to Turkey. The trips with professional purpose to Germany were 44.4%, as these to Italy and Spain with holiday and recreation purpose were 59.8% and 51.0% respectively of all trips of Bulgarian residents to these countries (Figure 2).



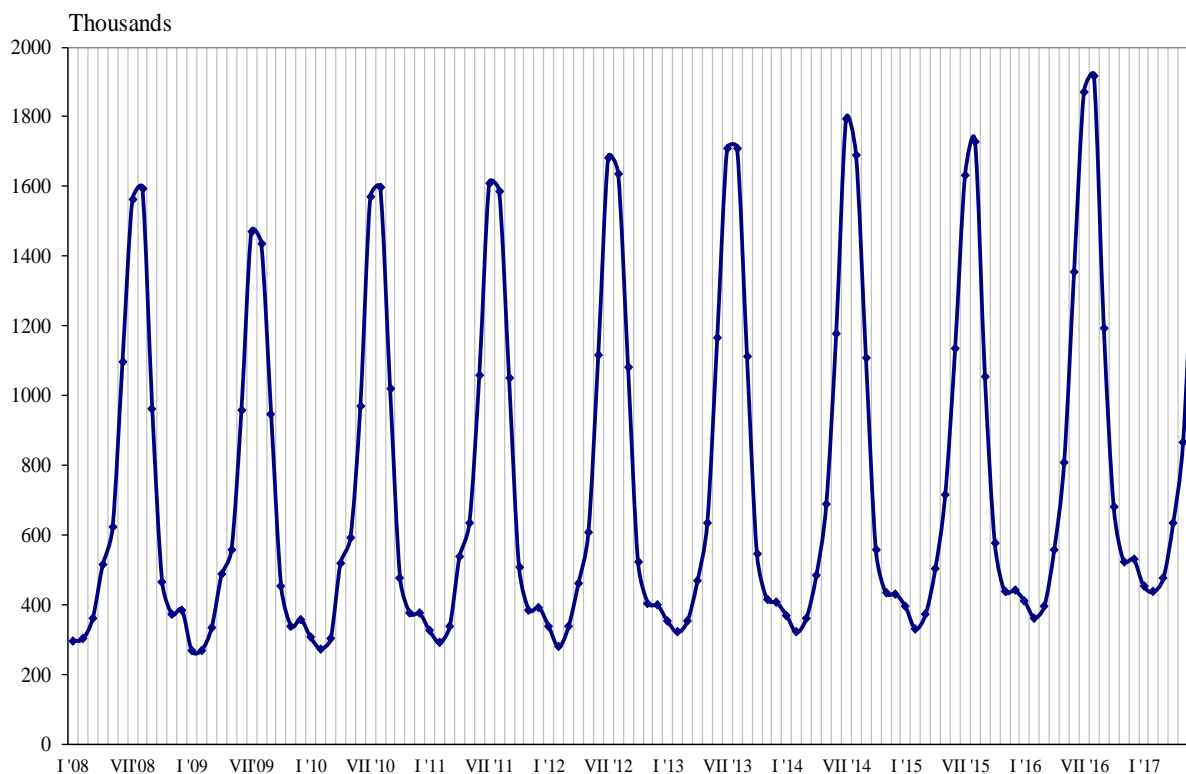
Figure 2. Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit and country of destination in June 2017





In June 2017, **the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria** was 1 448.6 thousand (Annex, Table 2) or by 6.9% more in comparison with June 2016 (Figure 3). An increase was registered in the trips with other purposes - by 20.4% and with holiday and recreation purpose - by 5.9%, while those with professional purpose decreased by 17.1%.

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



The share of visits of EU citizens was 60.0% of the total number of foreigners' visits to Bulgaria in June 2017 or by 4.4% more in comparison with the same month of the previous year. An increase was registered in the visits of the citizens of the Netherlands - by 35.1%, the United Kingdom - by 27.9%, France - by 25.5%, Poland - by 16.0%, Belgium - by 13.7%, Romania - by 2.3%, Germany - by 1.1%, and etc. At the same time decreased the visits from Hungary - 11.5%, Czech Republic - by 2.4%, Greece - by 1.8%, and etc.

The visits of foreigners in the group 'Other European countries'¹ increased by 10.1%, as the highest growth was observed in the visits of citizens of Ukraine - by 17.8%.

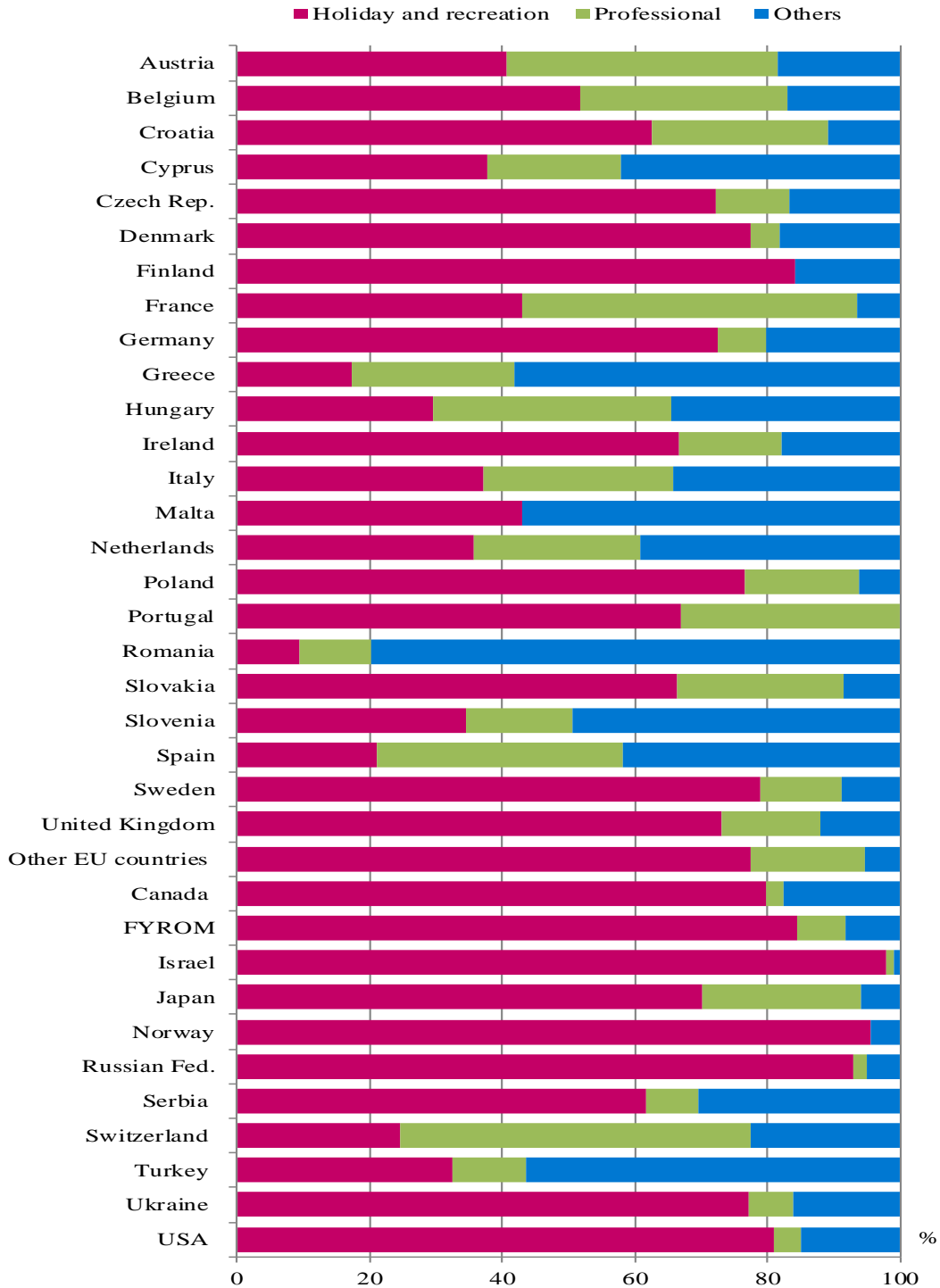
In June 2017, the predominant share of the visits with holiday and recreation purpose was 51.5%, followed by trips with other purposes (including as guest and passing transit) - 36.2%, and with professional purpose - 12.3%.

The visits with holiday and recreation purpose formed 97.8% of the arrivals from Israel, 95.4% - from Norway and 92.8% - from Russian Federation. The visits with other purposes were 79.8% of all arrivals from Romania and 58.2% from Greece (Figure 4).

¹ Group 'Other European countries' includes countries in Europe outside EU.



Figure 4. Structure of the arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad by purpose of visit and country of origin in June 2017





Methodological notes

The definitions recommended by the World Tourist Organization and the Methodological manual for tourism by Eurostat are applied by the National Statistical Institute.

In accordance with these definitions **an international tourist** is any person who travels to a country other than his/her permanent residence for at least 24 hours but no more than one year and whose main purpose is not doing any activity for payment.

The purposes of visiting a country are the following:

- Excursion, holiday or entertainment (visits to cultural or historical landmarks, sport events and other);
- Visiting friends and relatives;
- Professional purposes (business trips, participation in conferences, congresses, concluding deals, and etc.);
- Other (education, medical treatment, and etc.) purposes.

Statistical data on the trips of Bulgarian citizens travelling abroad and visits by foreigners to 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 through 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 from 'third countries' are obtained directly from the Ministry of Interior.

Data on the purposes of the trips are obtained on the basis of the NSI's regular monthly sample survey of passing Bulgarian and foreign citizens through the border check points.



Annex

Table 1

**Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purposes of visit
and country of destination in June 2017**

Country of destination	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
				(Number)
Total	618862	189634	147926	281302
EU	347759	115241	99575	132943
Austria	20634	3328	6989	10317
Belgium	8393	1865	3730	2798
Croatia	2540	2032	508	-
Cyprus	1628	1085	362	181
Czech Republic	8333	2384	3431	2518
Denmark	1440	640	-	800
Finland	412	106	225	81
France	14102	6913	3404	3785
Germany	35089	4798	15595	14696
Greece	105635	35636	30617	39382
Hungary	3391	1216	684	1491
Ireland	1741	620	271	850
Italy	23746	14198	4162	5386
Malta	2159	1295	286	578
Netherlands	5195	1731	546	2918
Poland	10252	1465	2929	5858
Portugal	1480	1480	-	-
Romania	55677	18012	18185	19480
Slovakia	2466	577	320	1569
Slovenia	2438	521	488	1429
Spain	20972	10700	2996	7276
Sweden	1484	200	138	1146
United Kingdom	13777	4258	2222	7297
Other EU countries	4775	181	1487	3107
Other European countries	248428	66599	44139	137690
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	48358	19118	13495	15745
Norway	1272	241	395	636
Russian Federation	7060	557	2787	3716
Serbia	44796	4571	11885	28340
Switzerland	1784	578	700	506
Turkey	143118	40816	14877	87425
Ukraine	2040	718	-	1322
Other countries	6228	1441	503	4284
Canada	1065	355	-	710
Israel	1969	376	394	1199
USA	3194	710	109	2375
Rest of the world	16447	6353	3709	6385



Table 2

**Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria
by purpose of visit and country of origin in June 2017**

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
Total	1448580	746863	177476	524241
EU	868787	331328	140070	397389
Austria	7387	2989	3036	1362
Belgium	11235	5815	3494	1926
Croatia	2973	1858	795	320
Cyprus	547	207	110	230
Czech Republic	22207	15997	2500	3710
Denmark	6622	5117	301	1204
Finland	6149	5176	-	973
France	17481	7492	8848	1141
Germany	161997	117157	12060	32780
Greece	174758	30185	42895	101678
Hungary	10709	3153	3867	3689
Ireland	3862	2574	601	687
Italy	14513	5368	4175	4970
Malta	300	129	-	171
Netherlands	12315	4398	3079	4838
Poland	46455	35557	7980	2918
Portugal	1228	821	407	-
Romania	277841	25846	30153	221842
Slovakia	5329	3534	1336	459
Slovenia	2952	1015	472	1465
Spain	7563	1591	2800	3172
Sweden	9823	7755	1192	876
United Kingdom	52681	38422	7922	6337
Other EU countries	11860	9172	2047	641
Other European countries	420990	295179	27668	98143
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	40989	34590	3045	3354
Norway	12643	12062	-	581
Russian Federation	140505	130388	2764	7353
Serbia	47895	29550	3678	14667
Switzerland	3686	903	1950	833
Turkey	106563	34653	11748	60162
Ukraine	68709	53033	4483	11193
Other countries	40862	36290	1743	2829
Canada	2594	2065	73	456
Israel	21674	21206	242	226
Japan	3599	2518	869	212
USA	12995	10501	559	1935
Rest of the world	117941	84066	7995	25880