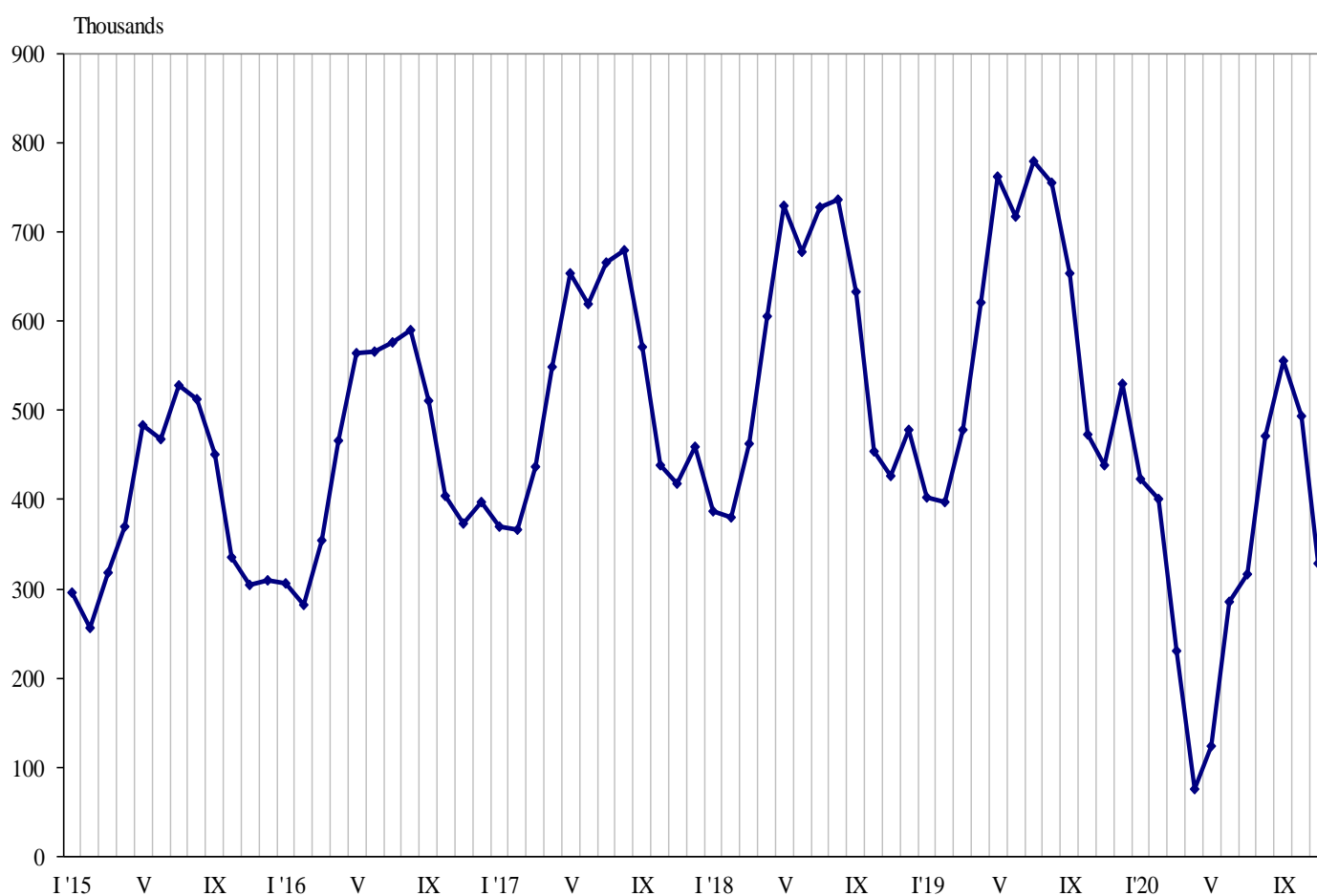


TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA¹ IN NOVEMBER 2020

In November 2020, during the continuing epidemic situation in the country, **the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad** was 328.2 thousand, or by 25.1% under the registered in November 2019 (Figure 1).

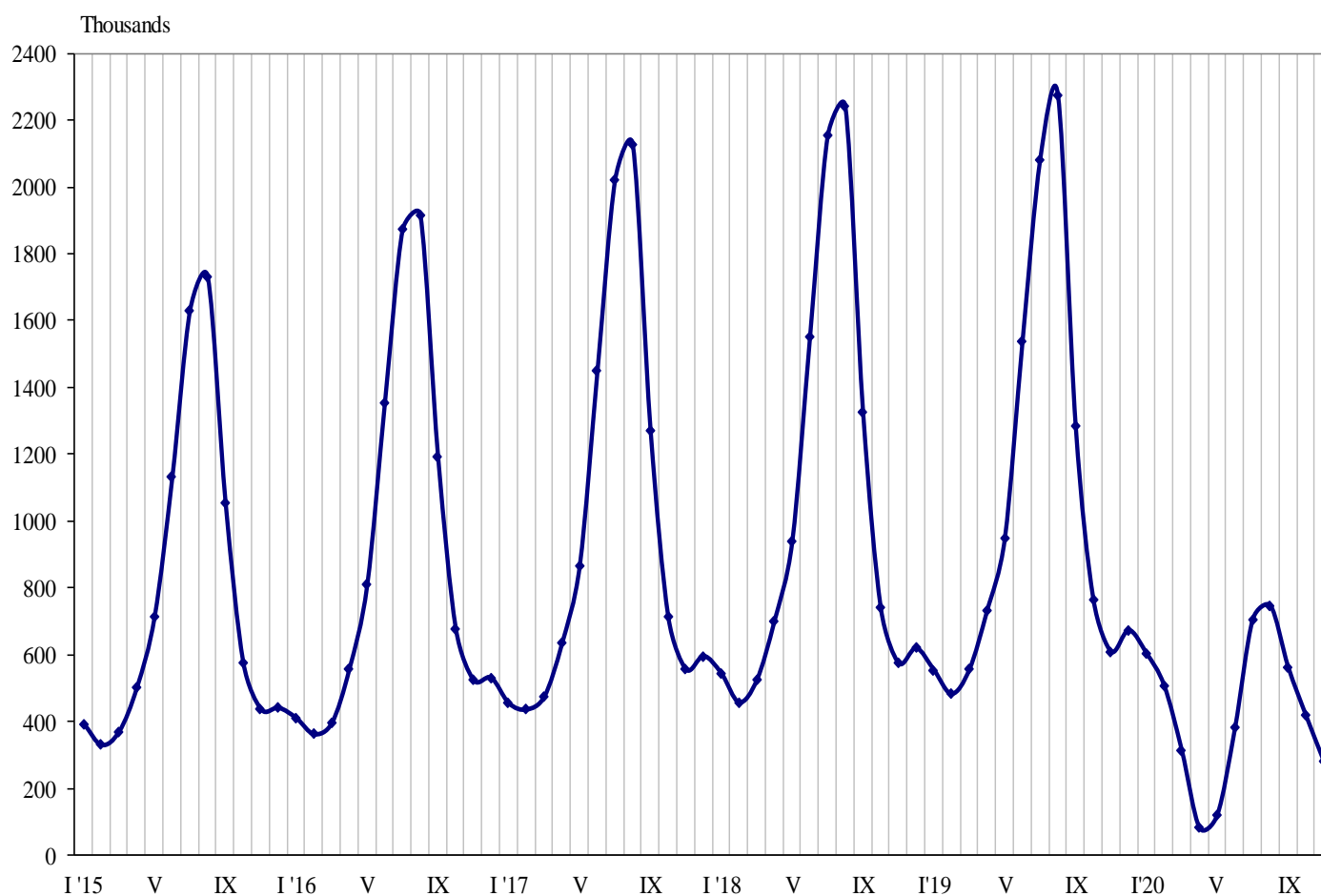
Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months



¹ Data provided by the Ministry of Interior.

In November 2020, **the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria** was 283.3 thousand (Annex, Table 1) or by 53.5% less in comparison with November 2019 (Figure 2). A collapse in the trips with all observed purposes was registered: ‘holiday and recreation’ - by 78.8%, ‘professional’ - by 57.3% and ‘others’ (including as guest and passing transit) - by 34.4%. Transit passes through the country were 56.2% (159.1 thousand) of all visits of foreigners to Bulgaria.

Figure 2. Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria by months



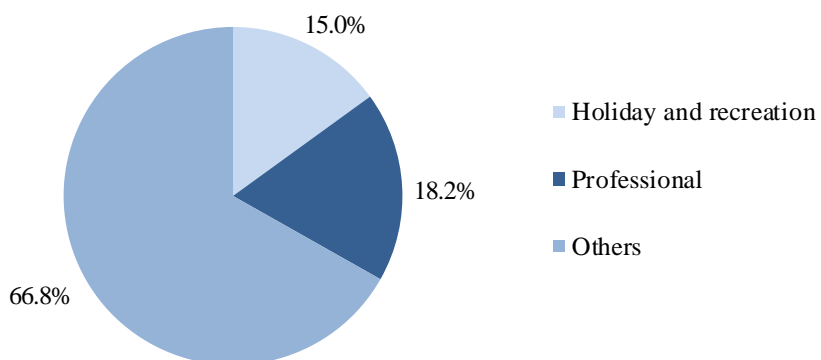
The share of visits of EU citizens was 37.9% of the total number of foreigners’ visits to Bulgaria in November 2020 or by 65.7% less in comparison with the same month of the previous year. A drop in the visits of citizens from all observed countries was registered.

The visits of foreigners in the group ‘Other European countries’¹ decreased by 36.9%.

¹ Group ‘Other European countries’ includes countries in Europe outside EU.

In November 2020, the relative share of visits by purpose was as follows: with other purposes - 66.8%, with professional purpose - 18.2% and with holiday and recreation purpose - 15.0%, and (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Structure of visits of foreign citizens to Bulgaria by purpose in November 2020



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 less than a year and whose main purpose is not doing any activity for payment in place visited.

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.

In November 2020, due to the impossibility to conduct the statistical survey at the border checkpoints, all statistical data on the trips of Bulgarians abroad and the visits of foreigners in Bulgaria - total and for the purpose of the trip - were provided to the NSI by the Ministry of Interior.

Annex

Table 1

Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria
by purpose of visit and country of origin in November 2020

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
Total	283287	42491	51674	189122
EU¹	107478	11907	18845	76726
Austria	1855	227	232	1396
Belgium	1592	362	153	1077
Croatia	1152	112	73	967
Cyprus	117	35	57	25
Czechia	1038	130	389	519
Denmark	197	115	-	82
Finland	174	174	-	-
France	1841	1092	136	613
Germany	6137	1817	123	4197
Greece	14517	2270	2366	9881
Hungary	2319	148	36	2135
Ireland	209	137	32	40
Italy	2264	781	484	999
Malta	61	41	-	20
Netherlands	1889	305	193	1391
Poland	7181	302	357	6522
Portugal	310	199	92	19
Romania	58086	1692	13294	43100
Slovakia	669	47	82	540
Slovenia	220	89	-	131
Spain	1052	504	173	375
Sweden	557	143	67	347
United Kingdom	3115	1008	358	1749
Other EU countries	926	177	148	601
Other European countries	148958	28035	27066	93857
Norway	142	41	28	73
Republic of North Macedonia	20884	2135	4002	14747
Russian Federation	2260	223	505	1532
Serbia	30763	11755	5435	13573
Switzerland	544	133	74	337
Turkey	83118	12146	14399	56573
Ukraine	11247	1602	2623	7022
Other countries	2936	515	471	1950
Canada	148	58
Israel	..	364	39	..
Japan	3	..
USA	2261	1789
Rest of the world	23915	2034	5292	16589

¹ Included UK data until the end of the transition period.

'-' - No case registered.

'..' - Confidential data.