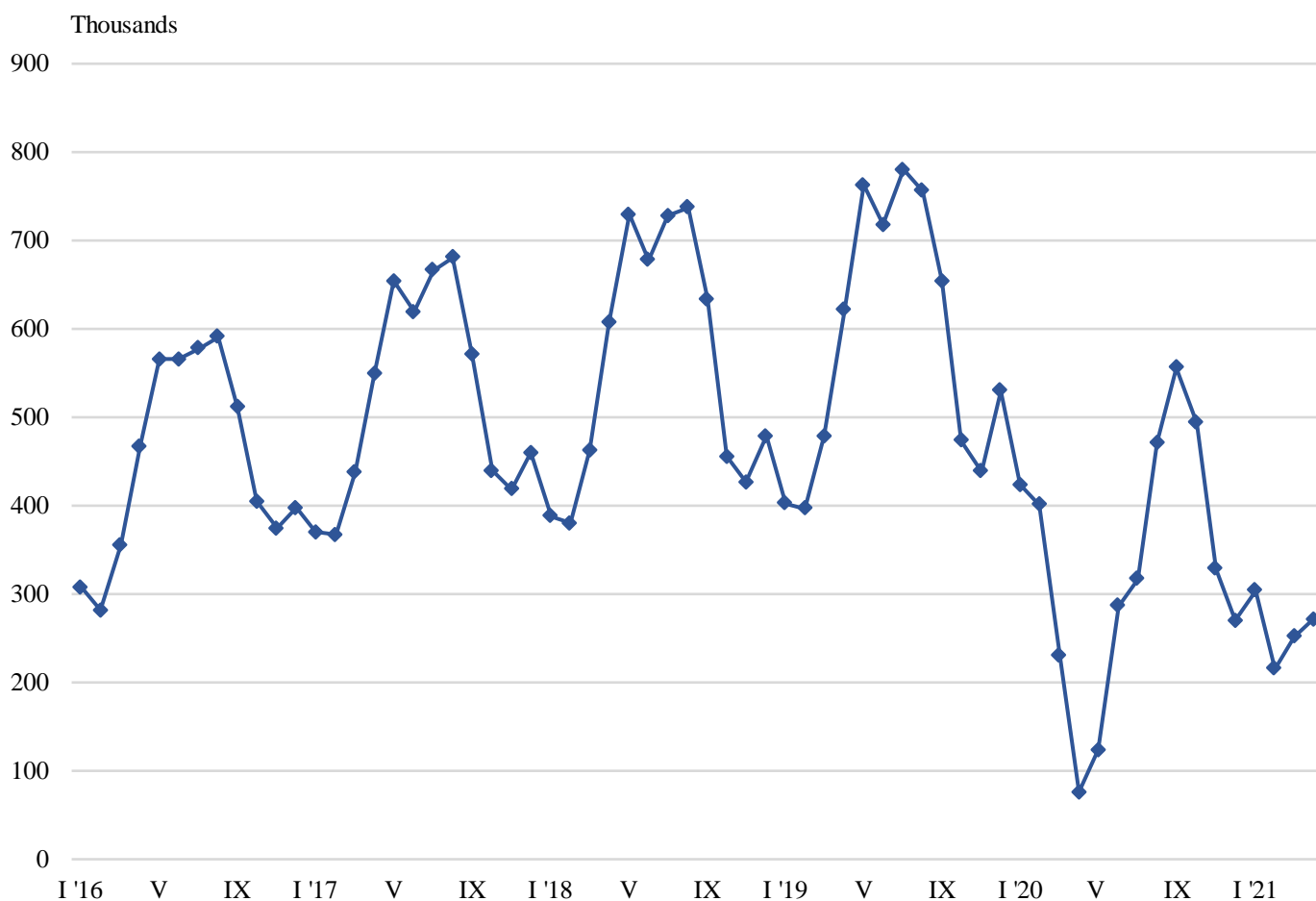


TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA^{1,2} IN APRIL 2021

In April 2021, in the conditions of the continuing epidemic situation, **the number of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad** was 271.2 thousand (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months

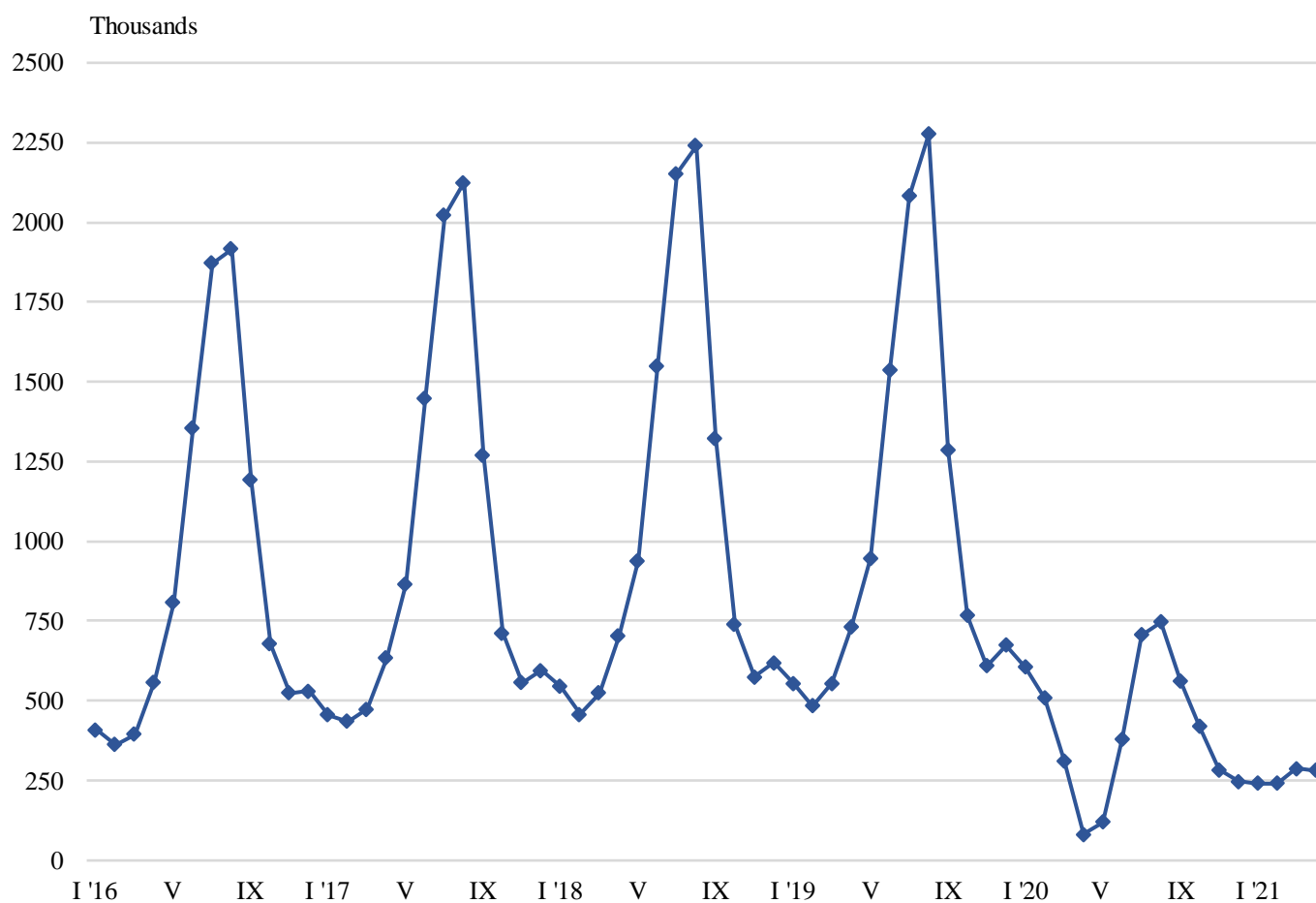


¹ Data provided by the Ministry of Interior.

² The press release does not contain comparative data due to the worldwide spread of coronavirus COVID-19 and the state of emergency on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria declared by a Decision of the National Assembly (State Gazette No. 22/13.03.2020).

In April 2021, the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria was 282.5 thousand (Annex, Table 1), as the transit was 61.7% (174.4 thousand) of all visits of foreigners in the country.

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



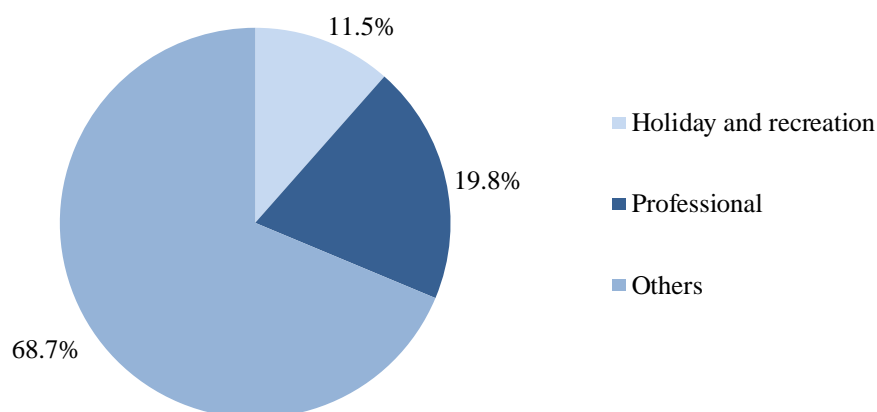
The share of visits of EU citizens was 37.7% of the total number of foreigners' visits to Bulgaria in April 2021 or 106.6 thousand, as the highest number of visits was from Romania - 47.3%, Greece - 15.7%, Germany - 9.4% and Poland - 7.1%.

The visits of foreigners in the group 'Other European countries'¹ were 141.7 thousand or 50.1% of all visits to Bulgaria. The highest number of visits from Turkey - 81.5 thousand or 57.6% of the visits in this group was registered.

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

In April 2021, the relative share of visits by purpose was as follows: with other purposes - 68.7%, with professional purpose - 19.8%, and with holiday and recreation purpose - 11.5% (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Structure of visits of foreign citizens to Bulgaria by purpose in April 2021



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 April 2021, 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 April 2021

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
Total	282501	32344	55957	194200
EU	106574	13041	16758	76775
Austria	2503	318	58	2127
Belgium	1482	292	153	1037
Croatia	1167	64	272	831
Cyprus	267	137	72	58
Czechia	1494	522	160	812
Denmark	295	131	63	101
Finland	166	111	-	55
France	3044	1128	316	1600
Germany	10003	1889	390	7724
Greece	16769	2828	5232	8709
Hungary	2356	184	232	1940
Ireland	160	89	53	18
Italy	2429	1185	226	1018
Malta	136	65	-	71
Netherlands	2108	377	97	1634
Poland	7540	428	122	6990
Portugal	252	169	29	54
Romania	50448	2066	8728	39654
Slovakia	691	46	106	539
Slovenia	205	82	43	80
Spain	1176	503	105	568
Sweden	657	187	46	424
Other EU countries	1226	240	255	731
Other European countries	141655	14132	32788	94735
Norway	106	57	-	49
Republic of North Macedonia	17088	3408	6028	7652
Russian Federation	1887	149	484	1254
Serbia	22298	2380	7024	12894
Switzerland	561	193	52	316
Turkey	81532	4716	15817	60999
Ukraine	16162	2174	3110	10878
United Kingdom	2021	1055	273	693
Other countries	5617	2765	414	2438
Canada	94	44	15	35
Israel	2925	2662	147	116
Japan	46	19	18	9
USA	2552	40	234	2278
Rest of the world	28655	2406	5997	20252

'-' - No case registered.