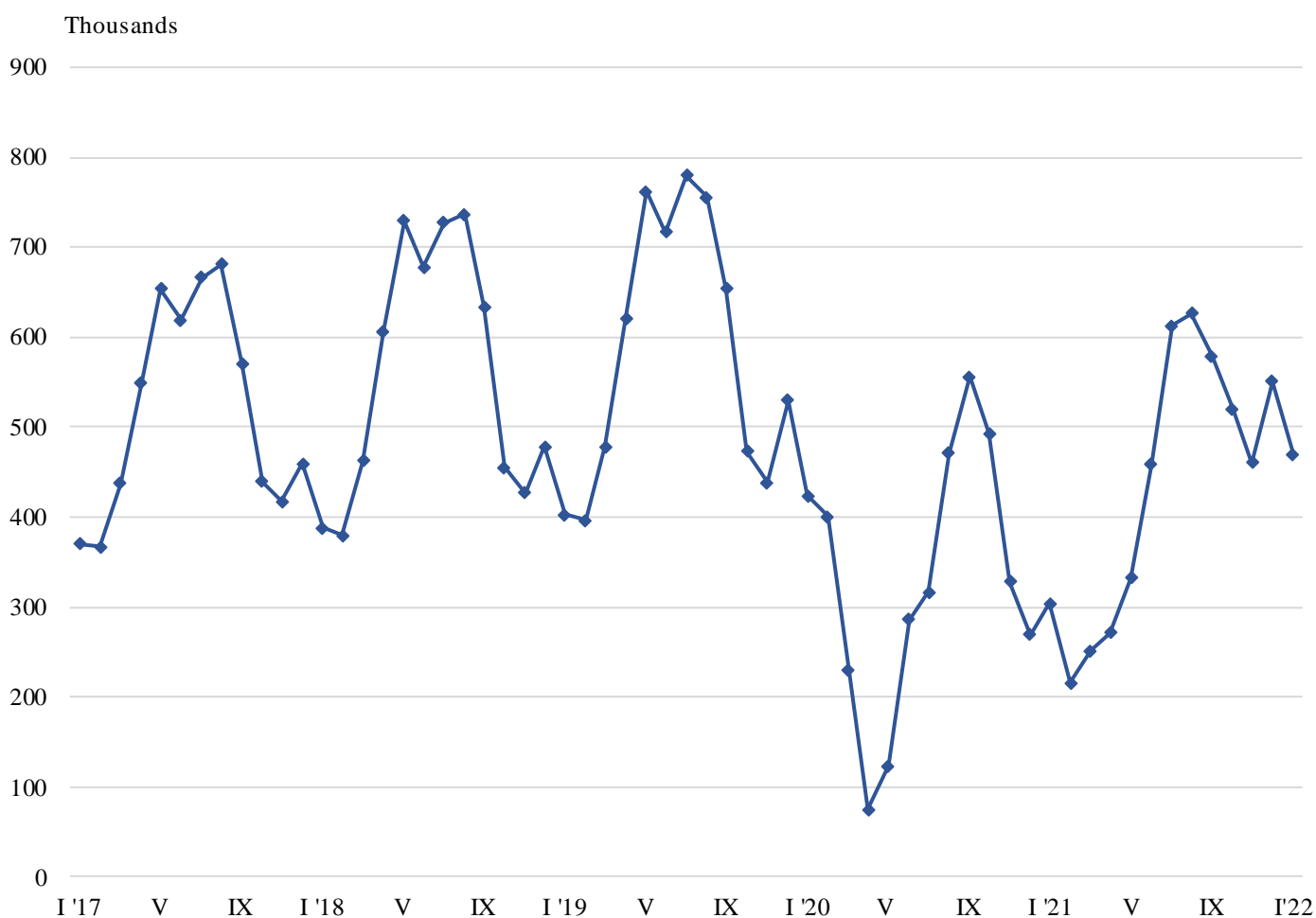


## TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA<sup>1</sup> IN JANUARY 2022

In January 2022, in the conditions of the continuing epidemic situation, **the number of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad** was 470.2 thousand, or by 54.8% above the registered in January 2021 (Figure 1).

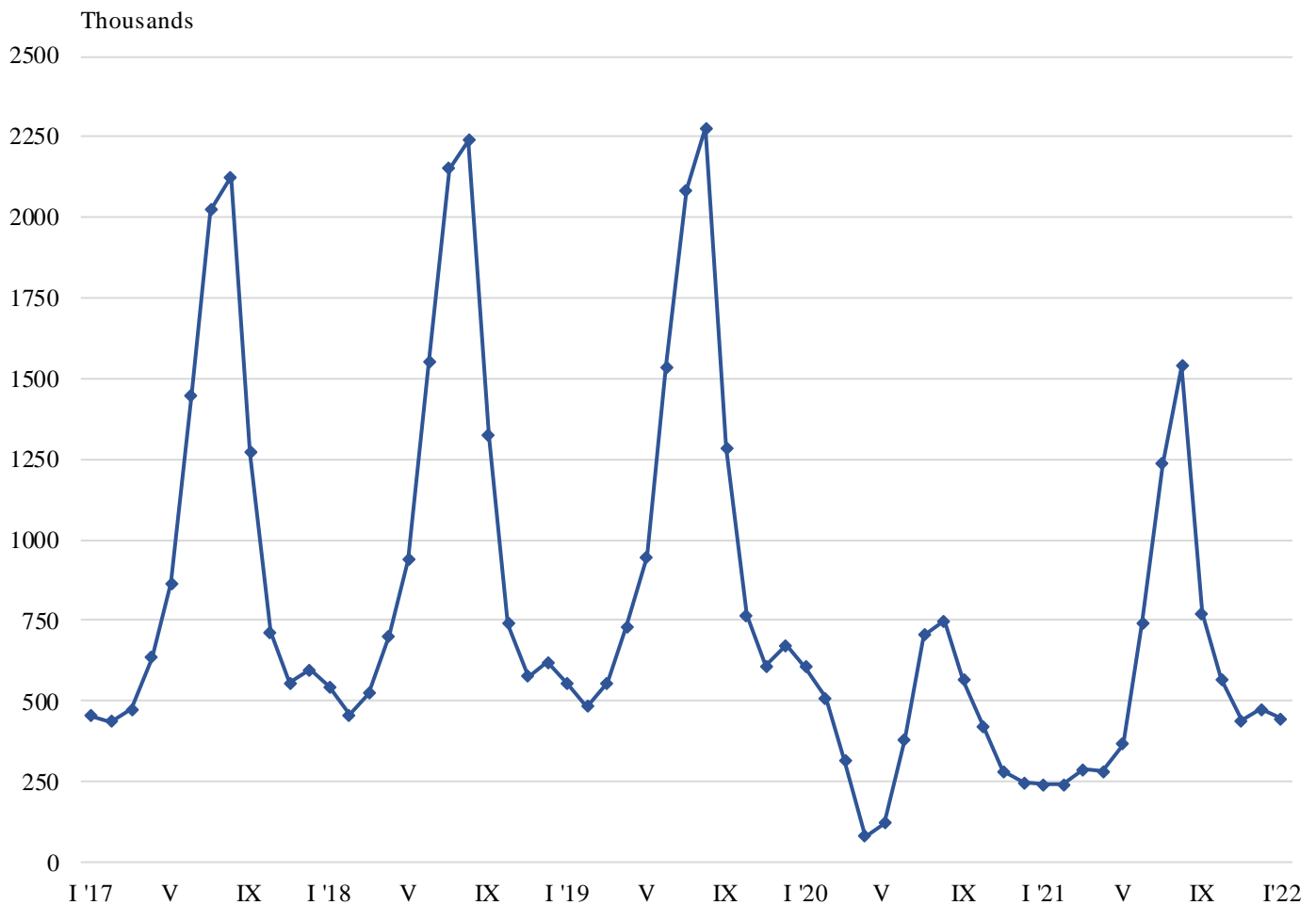
**Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months**



<sup>1</sup> Data provided by the Ministry of Interior. Due to the extension of the emergency epidemic situation in the country until 31.03.2022 with Decision 826 of the Council of Ministers of 25.11.2021, Order № RD-01-977 of 26.11.2021 and Order № RD-01-1036 of 17.12.2021 of the Minister of Health, the statistical survey 'Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad and arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria' in January was not conducted.

In January 2022, the number of arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria was 445.0 thousand (Figure 2), or by 84.1% above in comparison with January 2021 (Annex, Table 1), as the transit was 49.0% (218.3 thousand) of all visits of foreigners in the country.

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



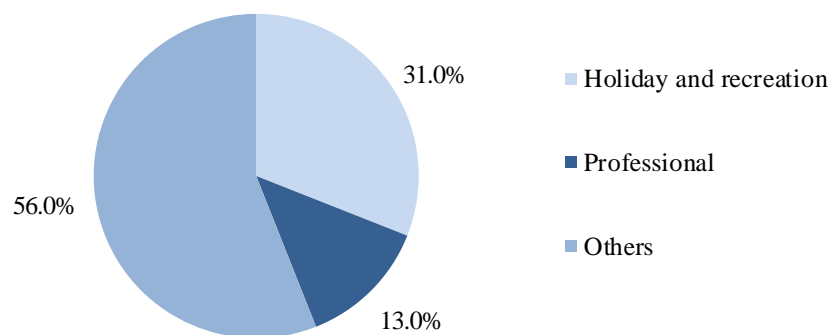
The share of visits by EU citizens was 38.2% of the total number of foreigners' visits to Bulgaria in January 2022, or 170.1 thousand, as the highest number of visits was from Romania - 46.7%, Greece - 15.8% and Germany - 9.3%.

The visits of foreigners in the group 'Other European countries'<sup>1</sup> were 232.1 thousand, or 52.2% of all visits to Bulgaria. The highest number of visits registered was from Turkey - 115.4 thousand, or 49.7% of the visits in this group was registered.

<sup>1</sup> Group 'Other European countries' includes countries in Europe outside the EU.

In January 2022, the relative share of visits by purpose was as follows: with other purposes - 56.0%, with holiday and recreation purpose - 31.0%, and with professional purpose - 13.0% (Figure 3).

**Figure 3. Structure of visits of foreign citizens to Bulgaria by purpose in January 2022**





## 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 (NSI).

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 January 2022, 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 January 2022

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
<b>Total</b>	<b>444994</b>	<b>137783</b>	<b>58102</b>	<b>249109</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>170109</b>	<b>51327</b>	<b>19979</b>	<b>98803</b>
Austria	8663	1001	667	6995
Belgium	2368	714	115	1539
Croatia	1688	402	429	857
Cyprus	687	275	49	363
Czechia	1464	373	244	847
Denmark	459	208	77	174
Finland	261	104	65	92
France	3604	1528	299	1777
Germany	15857	4139	147	11571
Greece	26926	16209	2936	7781
Hungary	2698	192	153	2353
Ireland	2573	1987	160	426
Italy	5105	2103	481	2521
Malta	51	51	-	-
Netherlands	3628	1052	174	2402
Poland	8218	421	885	6912
Portugal	667	161	138	368
Romania	79361	18777	12063	48521
Slovakia	986	139	107	740
Slovenia	366	94	73	199
Spain	2348	881	148	1319
Sweden	1022	205	112	705
Other EU countries	1109	311	457	341
<b>Other European countries</b>	<b>232137</b>	<b>73630</b>	<b>32742</b>	<b>125765</b>
Norway	268	129	72	67
Republic of North Macedonia	41239	23434	3648	14157
Russian Federation	10413	7817	475	2121
Serbia	33274	10021	6073	17180
Switzerland	785	312	102	371
Turkey	115440	15625	19367	80448
Ukraine	15881	3823	2717	9341
United Kingdom	14837	12469	288	2080
<b>Other countries</b>	<b>8312</b>	<b>5947</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>2003</b>
Canada	254	154	26	74
Israel	5237	5028	73	136
Japan	81	35	14	32
USA	2740	730	249	1761
<b>Rest of the world</b>	<b>34436</b>	<b>6879</b>	<b>5019</b>	<b>22538</b>

'-' - No case registered.