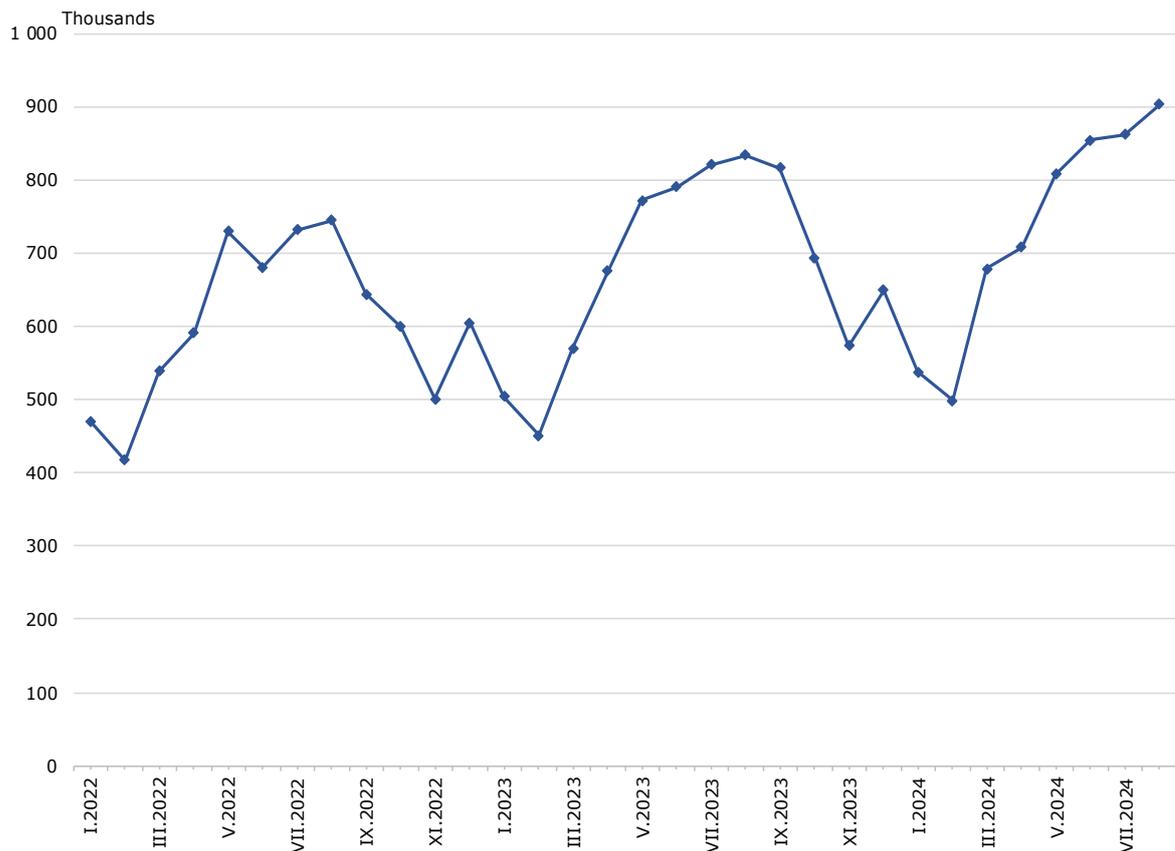




TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN AUGUST 2024

In August 2024, **the number of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad** was 903.4 thousand (Annex, Table 1), or 8.3% above the registered in August 2023. An increase was registered in the trips with holiday and recreation purposes - by 19.6%, and with professional purposes - by 3.0%, while those with other purposes (as a guest, education, and visiting cultural and sports events) decreased by 3.6% (Figure 1).

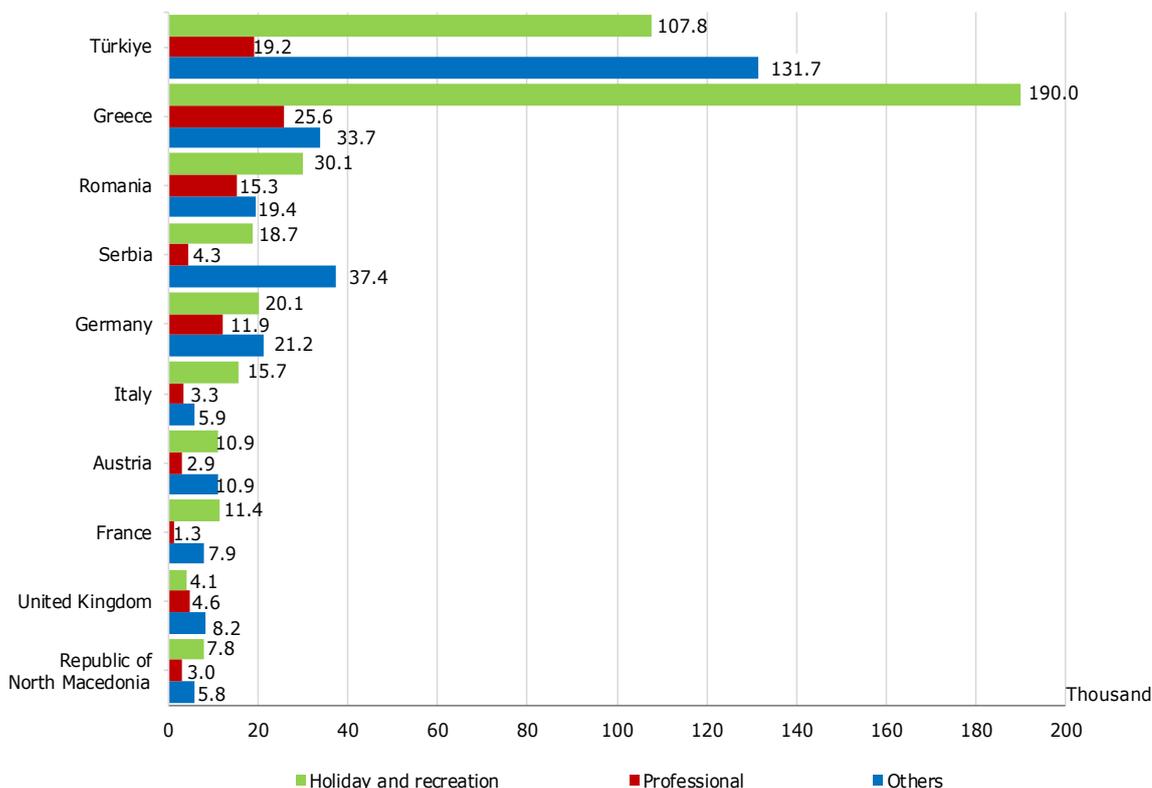
Figure 1. Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by months



Most trips of Bulgarian residents were made to: Türkiye - 258.7 thousand, Greece - 249.3 thousand, Romania - 64.8 thousand, Serbia - 60.4 thousand, Germany - 53.2 thousand, Italy - 24.9 thousand, Austria - 24.7 thousand, France - 20.6 thousand, the United Kingdom - 16.9 thousand, Republic of North Macedonia - 16.6 thousand (Figure 2).

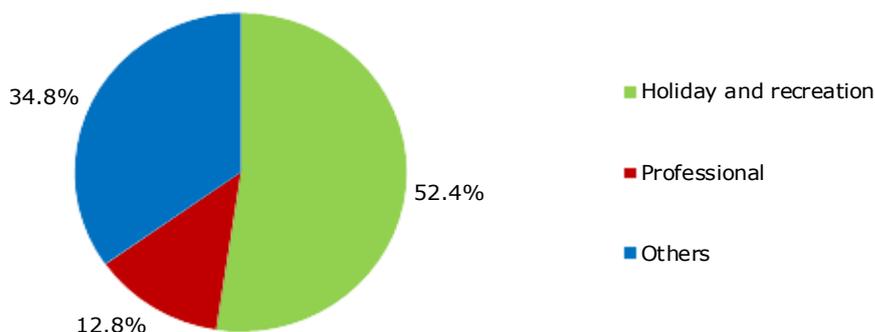
TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN AUGUST 2024

Figure 2. Most visited countries by Bulgarian citizens, by purpose of travel, in August 2024



The trips with holiday and recreation purposes formed the greatest share of the total number of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad - 52.4%, followed by those with other purposes - 34.8%, and with professional purposes - 12.8% (Figure 3).

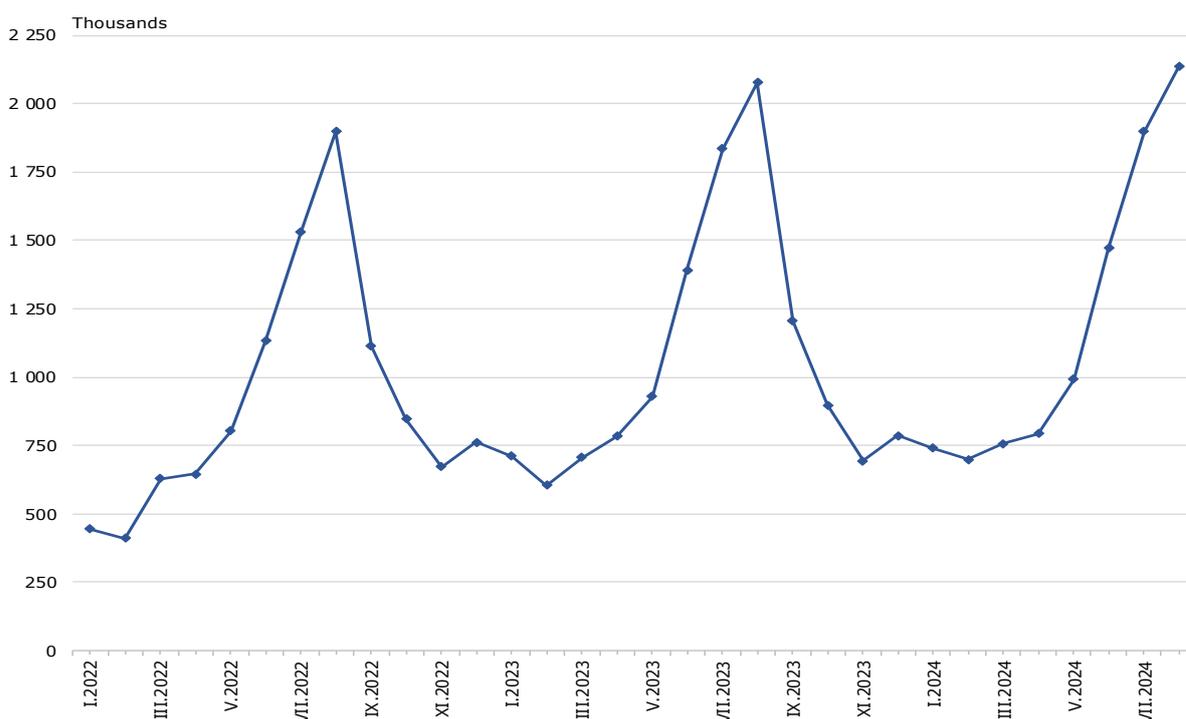
Figure 3. Structure of the trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit in August 2024



TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN AUGUST 2024

In August 2024, **the number of visits of non-residents to Bulgaria** was 2 135.7 thousand (Annex, Table 2), or 2.8% more in comparison with the same month of the previous year (Figure 4). An increase was registered in the trips with holiday and recreation purposes - by 6.2%, while those with professional purposes and with other purposes decreased by 2.3% and 0.5%, respectively. Transit passes through the country were 38.3% (818.6 thousand) of all visits of non-residents to Bulgaria.

Figure 4. Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria by months



The share of visits of EU citizens was 55.8% of the total number of non-residents' visits to Bulgaria and reached 1 192.8 thousand, the largest being by visitors from Romania - 30.6%, Germany - 20.6%, and Poland - 9.0%.

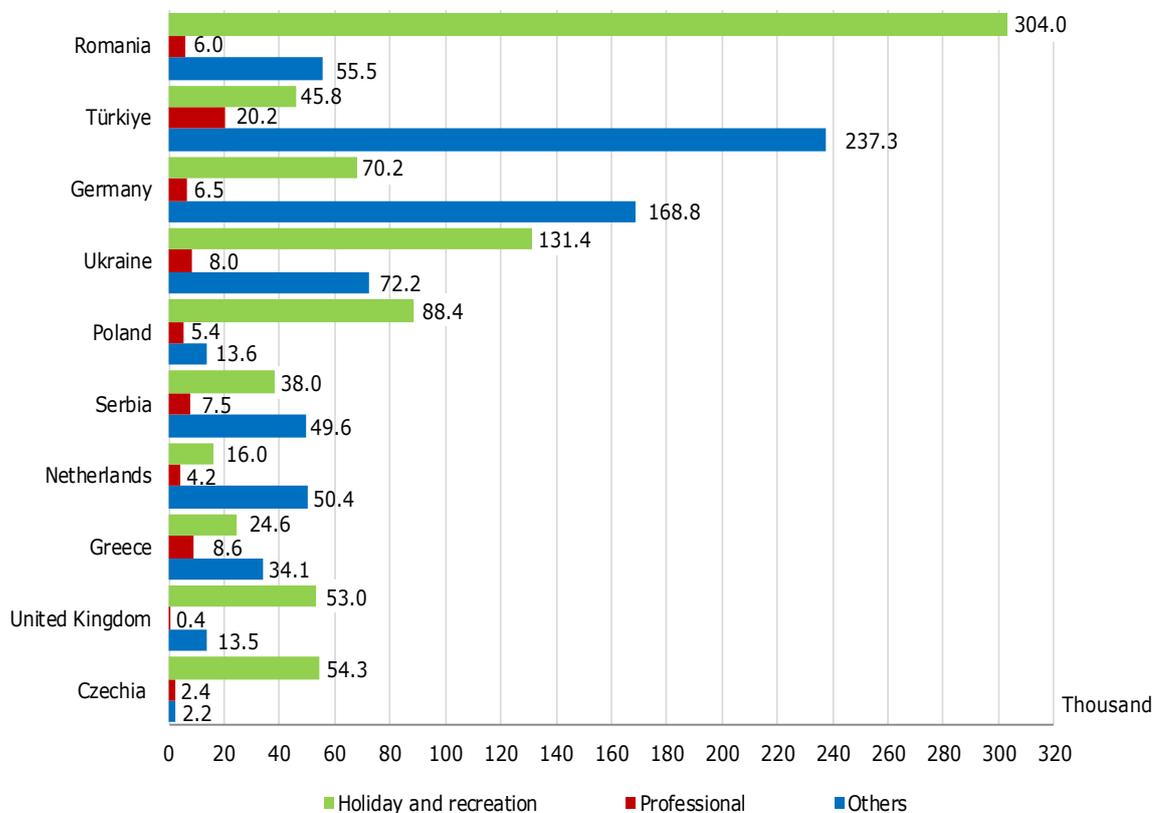
The visits of non-residents in the group 'Other European countries'¹ were 746.1 thousand, or 34.9% of all visits to Bulgaria. The highest registered number of visits was from Türkiye - 303.3 thousand, or 40.6% in this group.

Most visits to Bulgaria were from: Romania - 365.5 thousand, Türkiye - 303.3 thousand, Germany - 245.5 thousand, Ukraine - 211.6 thousand, Poland - 107.4 thousand, Serbia - 95.1 thousand, the Netherlands - 70.6 thousand, Greece - 67.3 thousand, the United Kingdom - 66.9 thousand, Czechia - 58.9 thousand (Figure 5).

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

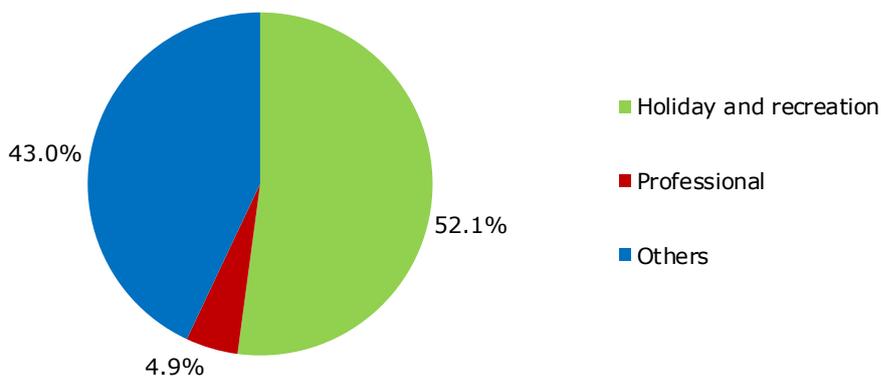
**TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM
ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN AUGUST 2024**

**Figure 5. Countries with the highest total number of visits to Bulgaria,
by purpose of travel, in August 2024**



The predominant share of the visits was with holiday and recreation purposes - 52.1%, followed by trips with other purposes - 43.0%, and with professional purposes - 4.9% (Figure 6).

**Figure 6. Structure of visits of non-residents to Bulgaria by purpose
in August 2024**



TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN AUGUST 2024

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 the place visited.

The purposes of visiting a country are the following:

- Excursion and holiday;
- Professional purposes (business trips, participation in conferences, congresses, concluding deals, etc.);
- Other (as a guest, education and visiting cultural and sports events, etc.) purposes.

Statistical data on the trips of Bulgarian residents travelling abroad and visits by non-residents to Bulgaria are obtained on the basis of monthly information received from the Ministry of Interior and a sample survey of the National Statistical Institute among residents and non-residents passing through border checkpoints.

Data on the number of 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 residents and non-residents through the border checkpoints.

**TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM
ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN AUGUST 2024**

Annex

Table 1

Trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit and by country of destination in August 2024

(Number)

Country of destination	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
Total	903415	473236	115991	314188
EU	523067	321184	77101	124782
Austria	24663	10927	2883	10853
Belgium	10141	2852	3169	4120
Croatia	7835	6715	475	645
Cyprus	1382	754	251	377
Czechia	10888	4585	1719	4584
Denmark	3731	1435	1129	1167
Finland	627	208	313	106
France	20598	11443	1289	7866
Germany	53220	20151	11884	21185
Greece	249295	190036	25543	33716
Hungary	7222	4514	1805	903
Ireland	1528	1292	236	-
Italy	24867	15725	3291	5851
Malta	1393	1045	-	348
Netherlands	6784	2261	1131	3392
Poland	7602	2433	3041	2128
Portugal	2628	1752	876	-
Romania	64810	30121	15288	19401
Slovakia	4677	2049	668	1960
Slovenia	2601	1951	650	-
Spain	14893	8191	1117	5585
Sweden	710	355	127	228
Other EU countries	972	389	216	367
Other European countries	357173	140350	32579	184244
Norway	1234	617	224	393
Republic of North Macedonia	16572	7784	3013	5775
Russian Federation	703	703	-	-
Serbia	60411	18666	4360	37385
Switzerland	2250	692	848	710
Türkiye	258746	107811	19166	131769
Ukraine	323	-	323	-
United Kingdom	16934	4077	4645	8212
Other countries	1582	659	142	781
Canada	506	309	-	197
Israel	26	-	26	-
USA	1050	350	116	584
Rest of the world	21593	11043	6169	4381

**TRIPS OF BULGARIAN RESIDENTS ABROAD AND ARRIVALS OF VISITORS FROM
ABROAD TO BULGARIA IN AUGUST 2024**

Table 2

Arrivals of visitors from abroad to Bulgaria by purpose of visit and by country of origin in August 2024

(Number)

Country of origin	Total	Purpose of visit		
		Holiday and recreation	Professional	Others
Total	2135701	1113024	104469	918208
EU	1192786	691314	53567	447905
Austria	53806	11304	3414	39088
Belgium	44377	9692	2367	32318
Croatia	3489	2326	217	946
Cyprus	3429	1632	327	1470
Czechia	58920	54346	2417	2157
Denmark	7435	5056	1190	1189
Finland	3421	2565	443	413
France	55416	15944	3155	36317
Germany	245479	70178	6527	168774
Greece	67252	24648	8552	34052
Hungary	17701	13571	2042	2088
Ireland	6734	4144	537	2053
Italy	16284	12108	2208	1968
Malta	784	392	233	159
Netherlands	70587	15999	4199	50389
Poland	107352	88372	5338	13642
Portugal	2953	1777	492	684
Romania	365526	304016	6020	55490
Slovakia	21452	18284	1751	1417
Slovenia	2080	1486	293	301
Spain	18360	16342	1043	975
Sweden	8155	6164	360	1631
Other EU countries	11794	10968	442	384
Other European countries	746081	314717	42490	388874
Norway	8544	6927	560	1057
Republic of North Macedonia	42816	29556	4534	8726
Russian Federation	12383	7650	462	4271
Serbia	95084	37982	7519	49583
Switzerland	5538	2423	855	2260
Türkiye	303265	45805	20210	237250
Ukraine	211598	131438	7939	72221
United Kingdom	66853	52936	411	13506
Other countries	42651	38622	341	3688
Canada	1932	1408	25	499
Israel	29570	28962	107	501
Japan	844	651	17	176
USA	10305	7601	192	2512
Rest of the world	154183	68371	8071	77741