

XX. TOURISM AND SPORT

Data on hotels, mountain chalets, camping sites and accommodation agencies are obtained from regular statistical reports.

The item Bed-nights is obtained through accumulation of the number of beds available for each of the days of the accounting period whether they have been occupied or not. Supplementary beds are taken into account too.

The number of rest houses includes all rest houses under the administration of State firm „Social recreation“ and other institutions.

An autonomous territorial delimited object consisting of one or more buildings, used as recreation and rest centre, under one management (one manager) is recorded as one rest house.

The number of holidaymakers includes persons who have holidayed at rest houses (including children no matter if they have had separate bed or not).

Tourism statistics has adopted the definition for international visitor recommended by World Tourism Organization. The definition adopted is as follows : an international visitor is any person who travels to a country other than that in which he has his usual residence at least for twenty four hours.

The following persons are not to be considered as visitors :

1. Persons arriving in the country with or without contract of employment.
2. Persons arriving in the country to settle as residents.
3. Border workers who regularly cross the frontier to work in a neighbouring country.

Data on the arrivals of foreigners in Bulgaria have been obtained through processing the data from the border check points.

Data on foreigner arrivals broken down by countries correspond to the country of usual residence of the foreigners.

The number of transit passengers is shown in a separate column of the table Arrivals by purposes of visit. Their number includes the visitors from abroad who passed the country without stopping as well as those arriving in the country with transit visa and staying for several days as tourists. The item „ Business „ as a purpose of visit covers all foreigners arriving in the country because of trade and scientific purposes, cultural relations, exchange of experience etc.

Data on Bulgarian residents travelling abroad are obtained from embarkation/disembarkation cards collected by border check points.

The breakdown of trips of Bulgarian residents abroad by purpose of visit and by country is made by 45 % random sampling of the total number of embarkation/disembarkation cards filled in. The final results are adjusted in accordance with sample data. The avowed motives of the trip and countries of destination may not coincide or completely cover the true ones.

The figures on different sporting disciplines are shown according to the activity of the sports union concerned.

Under sportsman is considered one who is training systematically, according to determined programme, at least 2-3 times weekly over the year (for students under 16 years old - during the school year) under the guidance of trainers (instructors) and who participates or is going to participate in competitions after the fixtures determined by the organization (union) concerned. A given sportsman is recorded in each sporting discipline once, but if he meets the sportsman requirements for other sporting discipline he is recorded once more.