Tourism in the EU - what a normal summer season looks like - before Covid-19

Statistics Explained

Data extracted in May 2020.

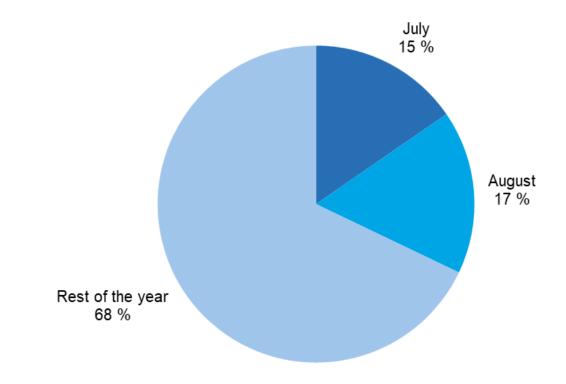
Highlights

In summer 2019, nearly one third (32 %) of annual nights spent at tourist accommodation establishments were recorded in July and August.

The share of July and August in total nights spent at tourist accommodation in 2019 ranges from 23 % in Malta to 58 % in Croatia.

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Nights spent in tourist accommodation establishments by month, EU-27, July-August 2019 (%)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_occ_nim)



Nights spent in tourist accommodation establishments by month, EU-27, July-August 2019 (%) Source: Eurostat (tour_occ_nim)

Tourism occupies an important place in the economy of the Member States, with tourism activities representing a large potential source of employment. Tourism satellite accounts show that the annual tourism gross value added in the EU is estimated at EUR 787 billion.

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, virtually all Member States have implemented containment measures and restrictions on non-essential travel, closed their borders and reinstated internal border controls within the Schengen area, often accompanied by requirements for cross-border travellers to stay in quarantine. This meant that millions of European citizens were suddenly unable to travel. In the course of March 2020, tourism came to a grinding halt and it is not likely that the recovery will start before the summer peak season.

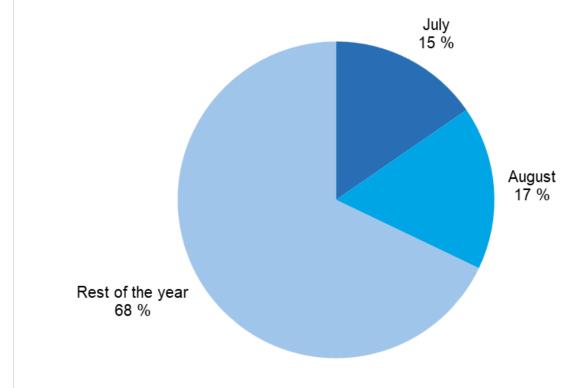
The European Commission released on 13 May 2020 its Communication "Tourism and transport in 2020 and beyond". This article provides some background information that could be used to quantify the potential impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the tourism economy in the summer peak season in 2020.

For the purpose of this article, the summer peak is defined as the months July and August (not including June, but focusing on the two summer months overlapping with the main holiday season in most Member States). Note that a similar background article is available on "what a normal spring season looks like" (spring season defined as the

One third of the annual nights spent at EU tourist accommodation

The main holiday season during July and August records nearly one third (32 %) of annual nights spent at tourist accommodation establishments (2019 data) (see Figure 1). These two months represent 915 million nights spent, out of an annual total of 2.8 billion nights spent at accommodation establishments across the EU. August tends to be slightly more dominant (17 % of the annual total) than July (15 %).

Nights spent in tourist accommodation establishments by month, EU-27, July-August 2019 (%)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_occ_nim)

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Figure 1: Nights spent in tourist accommodation establishments by month, EU-27, July-August 2019 (%) Source: Eurostat (tour_occ_nim)

The weight of the summer season in annual accommodation figures is very significant in all Member States, but varies strongly across the European Union, ranging from 23 % in Malta to 42 % in Greece, 46 % in Bulgaria and 58 % in Croatia (see Table 1 and Figure 2). The share of the summer months in annual tourism is similar when looking at nights spent by residents and nights spent by non-residents, with residents slightly favouring August over July.

Nights spent in tourist accommodation establishments, July-August 2019 (thousand)

	Number of n	ights spent	Share in the entire year 2019				
	Entire year 2019	July-August	July-August	July	August		
EU-27	2 849 852	914 878	32%	15%	17%		
Belgium	42 090	11 397	27%	14%	13%		
Bulgaria	27 155	12 363	46%	22%	24%		
Czechia	57 025	16 019	28%	14%	14%		
Denmark	34 180	11 929	35%	21%	14%		
Germany	436 955	106 315	24%	12%	12%		
Estonia	6 967	1 886	27%	14%	13%		
Ireland(1)	33 382	7 976	24%	11%	13%		
Greece	119 515	50 778	42%	20%	22%		
Spain	469 462	135 241	29%	13%	15%		
France	446 467	165 804	37%	17%	20%		
Croatia	91 178	53 245	58%	28%	30%		
Italy	434 062	157 613	36%	17%	19%		
Cyprus	18 056	5 263	29%	14%	15%		
Latvia	5 510	1 524	28%	14%	13%		
Lithuania	8 938	2 531	28%	14%	14%		
Luxembourg	2 917	893	31%	16%	15%		
Hungary	33 079	9 978	30%	15%	15%		
Malta	9 910	2 272	23%	11%	12%		
Netherlands	124 281	34 821	28%	13%	15%		
Austria	127 891	32 294	25%	12%	13%		
Poland	93 343	26 654	29%	14%	14%		
Portugal	77 224	21 164	27%	12%	15%		
Romania	29 870	9 465	32%	15%	17%		
Slovenia	15 764	5 463	35%	16%	19%		
Slovakia	17 225	4 671	27%	13%	14%		
Finland	23 096	5 677	25%	14%	10%		
Sweden	61 744	20 857	34%	20%	14%		
United Kingdom	367 229	120 069	33%	18%	14%		
Iceland	8 421	2 594	31%	16%	15%		
Liechtenstein	176	42	24%	12%	12%		
Norway	30 557	6 911	23%	6%	16%		
Switzerland(¹)	55 319	14 275	26%	13%	13%		
Montenegro	4 605	1 985	43%	20%	23%		
North Macedonia	2 295	690	30%	14%	16%		
Serbia	10 051	2 443	24%	11%	13%		
Kosovo(*)	382	100	26%	12%	14%		

^{(1) 2018} data

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_occ_nim)



^{*}This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

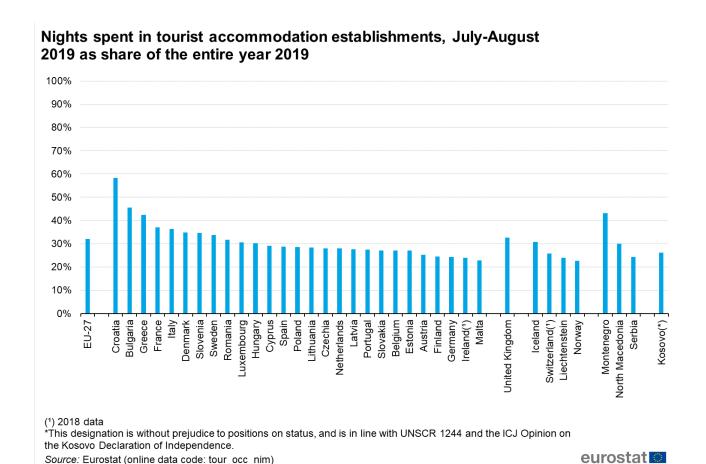


Figure 2: Nights spent in tourist accommodation establishments, July-August 2019 as share of the entire year 2019 Source: Eurostat (tour_occ_nim)

More than 1.9 billion tourism nights and EUR 138 billion spent

The first part of this article looked at summer season occupancy of EU tourist accommodation establishments in 2019. The remaining part looks at trips made by EU residents in July and August 2018 (data for 2019 not yet available). In July and August, residents of the EU made over 270 million trips, corresponding to 24 % of the total number of tourism trips with overnight stays made in a year (2018 data) (see Table 2). Trips during the summer peak are significantly longer (7.1 nights on average, compared to 4.6 nights during the spring season) and account for more than 1.9 billion overnight stays. These trips and nights represent EUR 138 billion spending, of which EUR 61 billion was spent on domestic trips and EUR 49 billion on trips to destinations in other EU Member States (and the remaining EUR 28 billion on trips to non-EU destinations).

Tourism trips, nights and expenditure of EU-27 residents by destination and month of departure, July-August 2018

	Futing	lub. A.m.n4	Share in the	e entire ye	ar 2018
	Entire year 2018	July-August	July-August	July	August
Total trips (thousand)	1 133 696	270 663	24%	11%	12%
Domestic trips	799 731	190 175	24%	11%	13%
Outbound trips	333 965	80 488	24%	12%	12%
Other EU countries	239 643	60 477	25%	12%	13%
Rest of the world	94 322	20 011	21%	10%	11%
Total nights (thousand)	5 882 100	1 927 447	33%	17%	16%
Domestic trips	3 306 662	1 177 469	36%	18%	18%
Outbound trips	2 575 439	749 978	29%	15%	14%
Other EU countries	1 593 878	511 260	32%	16%	16%
Rest of the world	981 560	238 718	24%	13%	11%
Total expenditure (million Euro)	516 713	137 621	27%	13%	14%
Domestic trips	206 654	60 868	29%	14%	15%
Outbound trips	310 059	76 753	25%	12%	13%
Other EU countries	173 680	48 612	28%	13%	15%
Rest of the world	136 379	28 141	21%	11%	10%

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_dem_ttmd, tour_dem_tnmd)



Table 2: Tourism trips, nights and expenditure of EU-27 residents by destination and month of departure, July-August 2018 Source: Eurostat (tour_dem_ttmd) (tour_dem_tnmd)

The pattern of destinations preference in summer does not differ much from the destination visited during the entire year: 7 out of 10 trips were domestic trips.

The highest number of tourism trips in the summer months July and August are made by residents of France (53 million trips, of which 40 million domestic trips), Germany (48 million trips, of which 25 million domestic trips) and Spain (39 million trips, of which 34 million domestic trips) (see Tables 3a, 3b and 3c for detailed data by country).

Tourism trips of EU residents by destination and month of departure, July-August 2018 (thousand trips)

Country of	All trips (do	mestic + outbound)	Domestic trips			Outbound trips			
residence of the tourist	Jan-Dec 2018 July-August (% share in the			Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2018 (% share in the year		Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2018 (% share in the year)	
EU-27	1 133 696	270 663 24	4%	799 731	190 175	24%	333 965	80 488	24%
Belgium	16 893	5 272 3	1%	3 794	1 094	29%	13 098	4 177	32%
Bulgaria	5 090	1 573 3	1%	4 150	1 328	32%	940	245	26%
Czechia	34 569	9 474 2	7%	27 179	6 645	24%	7 390	2 829	38%
Denmark	18 875	4 619 2	4%	11 922	2 783	23%	6 953	1 836	26%
Germany	267 879	47 960 1	8%	159 338	25 361	16%	108 542	22 599	21%
Estonia	6 468	1 467 2	3%	4 399	1 003	23%	2 068	465	22%
Ireland	15 941	3 566 2	2%	8 597	2 135	25%	7 344	1 431	19%
Greece	6 565	3 243 <i>4</i>	9%	5 691	3 065	54%	874	178	20%
Spain	156 370	38 544 2	5%	139 938	34 250	24%	16 433	4 294	26%
France	220 225	52 814 2	4%	166 901	40 067	24%	53 324	12 747	24%
Croatia	5 255	1 274 2	4%	3 197	1 008	32%	2 058	266	13%
Italy	68 186	19 804 2	9%	53 850	16 275	30%	14 336	3 528	25%
Cyprus	3 001	733 2	4%	1 566	389	25%	1 435	343	24%
Latvia	3 952	1 045 2	6%	2 584	737	29%	1 368	308	23%
Lithuania	4 885	1 167 2	4%	2 641	653	25%	2 244	514	23%
Luxembourg	2 555	492 1	9%	45	:u	:u	2 509	487	19%
Hungary	19 230	4 970 2	6%	11 915	3 134	26%	7 315	1 836	25%
Malta	874	189 2	2%	245	66	27%	629	123	20%
Netherlands	44 551	9 949 2	2%	23 679	4 370	18%	20 871	5 579	27%
Austria	24 391	6 253 2	6%	12 508	2 834	23%	11 883	3 419	29%
Poland	60 483	19 641 3	2%	47 736	16 033	34%	12 747	3 608	28%
Portugal	18 298	4 798 2	6%	16 134	4 302	27%	2 164	496	23%
Romania	18 402	4 335 2	4%	17 144	3 927	23%	1 258	407	32%
Slovenia	5 191	1 759 3	4%	2 003	583	29%	3 188	1 176	37%
Slovakia	12 423	3 315 2	7%	7 761	1 726	22%	4 662	1 590	34%
Finland	38 602	8 720 2	3%	29 126	6 924	24%	9 476	1 796	19%
Sweden	54 541	13 689 2	5%	35 686	9 478	27%	18 855	4 212	22%
Norway	27 084	6 111 2	3%	18 998	4 184	22%	8 086	1 926	24%
Switzerland	21 946	5 405 2	5%	6 661	1 473	22%	15 285	3 932	26%

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_dem_ttmd)



Table 3a: Tourism trips of EU residents by destination and month of departure, July-August 2018 (thousand trips) Source: Eurostat (tour_dem_ttmd)

Tourism nights of EU residents by destination and month of departure, July-August 2018 (thousand nights)

Country of	All trips (domestic + outbound)			Domestic trips			Outbound trips			
residence of the tourist	Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2 (% share in the		Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2 (% share in the		Jan-Dec 2018 July-August 201 (% share in the year)			
EU-27	5 882 100	1 927 447	33%	3 306 662	1 177 469	36%	2 575 439	749 978	29%	
Belgium	119 022	50 039	42%	14 746	5 887	40%	104 276	44 152	42%	
Bulgaria	22 853	8 753	38%	16 455	7 209	44%	6 398	1 544	24%	
Czechia	140 641	54 817	39%	93 647	33 606	36%	46 994	21 211	45%	
Denmark	87 538	28 734	33%	39 969	12 490	31%	47 569	16 245	34%	
Germany	1 498 547	341 750	23%	587 419	126 597	22%	911 128	215 153	24%	
Estonia	20 555	5 380	26%	8 262	2 218	27%	12 293	3 162	26%	
Ireland	71 572	19 531	27%	21 374	6 970	33%	50 197	12 560	25%	
Greece	68 001	38 117	56%	60 391	36 232	60%	7 610	1 885	25%	
Spain	631 513	251 034	40%	507 827	206 064	41%	123 687	44 970	36%	
France	1 317 018	446 601	34%	917 023	324 372	35%	399 995	122 230	31%	
Croatia	29 207	10 696	37%	17 581	8 949	51%	11 626	1 748	15%	
Italy	366 766	160 853	44%	256 511	127 221	50%	110 255	33 631	31%	
Cyprus	15 640	4 359	28%	3 684	1 412	38%	11 956	2 947	25%	
Latvia	12 825	3 662	29%	5 514	1 789	32%	7 312	1 873	26%	
Lithuania	21 596	5 747	27%	7 191	2 323	32%	14 405	3 424	24%	
Luxembourg	15 968	5 116	32%	148	:u	:u	15 819	5 093	32%	
Hungary	70 594	22 802	32%	37 328	13 298	36%	33 266	9 504	29%	
Malta	4 519	1 138	25%	650	204	31%	3 869	934	24%	
Netherlands	291 678	100 727	35%	98 667	31 918	32%	193 011	68 809	36%	
Austria	115 664	39 283	34%	41 038	11 720	29%	74 626	27 563	37%	
Poland	345 856	136 025	39%	224 767	100 701	45%	121 088	35 324	29%	
Portugal	72 915	29 999	41%	56 755	25 575	45%	16 160	4 424	27%	
Romania	70 234	21 532	31%	61 372	18 443	30%	8 862	3 089	35%	
Slovenia	22 717	10 456	46%	5 412	1 970	36%	17 305	8 485	49%	
Slovakia	53 170	18 012	34%	26 020	6 773	26%	27 150	11 238	41%	
Finland	133 866	33 856	25%	78 356	21 911	28%	55 510	11 945	22%	
Sweden	261 624	78 429	30%	118 553	41 595	35%	143 071	36 834	26%	
Norway	119 614	37 537	31%	62 324	18 933	30%	57 289	18 604	32%	
Switzerland	144 626	47 582	33%	25 851	7 491	29%	118 775	40 092	34%	

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_dem_tnmd)



Table 3b: Tourism nights of EU residents by destination and month of departure, July-August 2018 (thousand nights) Source: Eurostat (tour_dem_tnmd)

Tourism expenditure of EU residents by destination and month of departure, July-August 2018 (million Euro)

Country of residence of the tourist	All trips (domestic + outbound)			Domestic trips			Outbound trips			
	Jan-Dec 2018	, ,	July-August 2018 % share in the year)		July-August 2018 (% share in the year)		Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2018 (% share in the year)		
EU-27	516 713	137 621	27%	206 654	60 868	29%	310 059	76 753	25%	
Belgium	9 740	3 273	34%	815	285	35%	8 924	2 988	33%	
Bulgaria	848	335	39%	515	248	48%	334	87	26%	
Czechia	5 418	1 975	36%	2 019	628	31%	3 398	1 347	40%	
Denmark	15 063	4 086	27%	5 240	1 334	25%	9 823	2 753	28%	
Germany	166 843	34 614	21%	53 163	11 102	21%	113 680	23 512	21%	
Estonia	2 109	466	22%	548	156	28%	1 561	309	20%	
Ireland	8 067	1 811	22%	1 626	439	27%	6 440	1 372	21%	
Greece	2 294	1 156	50%	1 768	1 057	60%	527	99	19%	
Spain	40 695	12 938	32%	26 073	8 542	33%	14 623	4 396	30%	
France	113 637	32 748	29%	59 893	18 445	31%	53 743	14 303	27%	
Croatia	1 651	406	25%	630	263	42%	1 021	144	14%	
Italy	26 829	10 311	38%	16 073	6 839	43%	10 756	3 472	32%	
Cyprus	1 674	425	25%	188	67	36%	1 486	358	24%	
Latvia	643	151	24%	122	38	31%	521	113	22%	
Lithuania	1 206	264	22%	196	54	28%	1 010	209	21%	
Luxembourg	2 103	482	23%	11	:u	:u	2 092	480	23%	
Hungary	3 063	858	28%	951	322	34%	2 111	536	25%	
Malta	606	126	21%	41	11	28%	565	115	20%	
Netherlands	21 567	5 966	28%	4 053	1 000	25%	17 514	4 966	28%	
Austria	15 464	4 597	30%	4 468	1 080	24%	10 996	3 517	32%	
Poland	13 856	4 870	35%	6 485	2 780	43%	7 371	2 090	28%	
Portugal	3 164	1 075	34%	2 007	783	39%	1 157	291	25%	
Romania	2 687	901	34%	2 161	729	34%	526	172	33%	
Slovenia	1 391	492	35%	241	90	37%	1 150	402	35%	
Slovakia	3 096	1 129	36%	1 002	266	27%	2 095	863	41%	
Finland	14 553	3 034	21%	5 770	1 419	25%	8 783	1 615	18%	
Sweden	38 447	9 132	24%	10 597	2 889	27%	27 851	6 243	22%	
Norway	17 219	4 897	28%	6 399	1 648	26%	10 820	3 248	30%	
Switzerland	16 643	4 316	26%	2 208	525	24%	14 435	3 791	26%	

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_dem_extot)



Table 3c: Tourism expenditure of EU residents by destination and month of departure, July-August 2018 (million Euro) Source: Eurostat (tour dem extot)

Europeans spend more than 500 million overnights in the EU

The previous chapter looked at the data from the point of view of the country of origin of the visitor and the destination of the trip (domestic trips within the country of residence, and outbound trips to foreign countries). This chapter focuses on intra-EU tourism trips by looking at the internal tourism of each EU country (domestic trips made by its own residents, and inbound trips of tourists coming from other EU countries) (see Tables 4a, 4b and 4c). During the summer peak (July and August), EU residents made more than 250 million tourism trips to destinations in the EU, corresponding to 1.7 billion nights in rented or non-rented accommodation (of which 1.2 billion nights in their own country and 500 million nights in other EU Member States). During these summer trips, they spent nearly EUR 110 billion, or close to EUR 1.8 billion per day during the two summer months. Looking at inbound overnight trips from other EU countries, regardless of the type of accommodation, in two countries July and August account for more than half of the annual intra-EU visitors: Bulgaria (53 %) and Croatia (54 %). When looking at domestic tourism, Greece records important domestic

Intra-EU tourism trips by country visited and month of departure, July-August 2018 (thousand trips)

Country visited		tra-EU trips tic + inbound)	Domestic trips (residents of a country making trips in that country)			Inbound trips (by residents of other EU countries)			
,	Jan-Dec 2018 July-August 2018 (% share in the year)		Jan-Dec 2018	Jan-Dec 2018 July-August 2018 (% share in the year)			Jan-Dec 2018 July-August 201		
EU-27	1 039 374	250 652	24%	799 731	190 175	24%	239 643	60 477	25%
Belgium	12 462	2 477	20%	3 794	1 094	29%	8 668	1 382	16%
Bulgaria	6 719	2 473	37%	4 150	1 328	32%	2 569	1 145	45%
Czechia	34 644	7 915	23%	27 179	6 645	24%	7 465	1 270	17%
Denmark	17 009	4 107	24%	11 922	2 783	23%	5 087	1 324	26%
Germany	180 409	29 692	16%	159 338	25 361	16%	21 071	4 330	21%
Estonia	6 862	1 603	23%	4 399	1 003	23%	2 463	600	24%
Ireland	11 562	2 751	24%	8 597	2 135	25%	2 965	616	21%
Greece	17 452	7 329	42%	5 691	3 065	54%	11 761	4 264	36%
Spain	177 482	43 025	24%	139 938	34 250	24%	37 544	8 774	23%
France	187 287	45 905	25%	166 901	40 067	24%	20 386	5 838	29%
Croatia	13 213	6 151	47%	3 197	1 008	32%	10 016	5 143	51%
Italy	86 418	24 708	29%	53 850	16 275	30%	32 568	8 433	26%
Cyprus	2 444	635	26%	1 566	389	25%	878	245	28%
Latvia	3 702	1 035	28%	2 584	737	29%	1 118	298	27%
Lithuania	3 362	886	26%	2 641	653	25%	721	233	32%
Luxembourg	1 008	282	28%	45	5	12%	962	277	29%
Hungary	15 938	4 362	27%	11 915	3 134	26%	4 023	1 229	31%
Malta	1 747	302	17%	245	66	27%	1 502	236	16%
Netherlands	36 628	6 876	19%	23 679	4 370	18%	12 948	2 507	19%
Austria	32 926	6 818	21%	12 508	2 834	23%	20 418	3 984	20%
Poland	54 914	17 419	32%	47 736	16 033	34%	7 178	1 386	19%
Portugal	26 963	6 987	26%	16 134	4 302	27%	10 829	2 685	25%
Romania	20 526	4 749	23%	17 144	3 927	23%	3 382	822	24%
Slovenia	3 326	857	26%	2 003	583	29%	1 323	275	21%
Slovakia	11 080	2 711	24%	7 761	1 726	22%	3 319	985	30%
Finland	31 216	7 461	24%	29 126	6 924	24%	2 091	536	26%
Sweden	42 073	11 137	26%	35 686	9 478	27%	6 387	1 659	26%

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_dem_ttw)

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Table 4a: Intra-EU tourism trips by country visited and month of departure, July-August 2018 (thousand trips) Source: Eurostat (tour_dem_ttw)

Intra-EU tourism nights by country visited and month of departure of the trip, July-August 2018 (thousand nights)

Country visited	All intra-EU trips (domestic + inbound)			Domestic trips (residents of a country making trips in that country)			Inbound trips (by residents of other EU countries)			
,	Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2 (% share in the		Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2 (% share in the		Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2 (% share in the		
EU-27	4 900 540	1 688 729	34%	3 306 662	1 177 469	36%	1 593 878	511 260	32%	
Belgium	47 967	12 468	26%	14 746	5 887	40%	33 221	6 581	20%	
Bulgaria	36 340	17 688	49%	16 455	7 209	44%	19 885	10 480	53%	
Czechia	125 738	40 384	32%	93 647	33 606	36%	32 091	6 778	21%	
Denmark	69 834	23 628	34%	39 969	12 490	31%	29 865	11 139	37%	
Germany	697 029	155 335	22%	587 419	126 597	22%	109 610	28 738	26%	
Estonia	15 992	4 797	30%	8 262	2 218	27%	7 729	2 579	33%	
Ireland	43 734	13 312	30%	21 374	6 970	33%	22 360	6 342	28%	
Greece	166 178	76 601	46%	60 391	36 232	60%	105 787	40 369	38%	
Spain	831 500	291 474	35%	507 827	206 064	41%	323 674	85 410	26%	
France	1 058 538	378 663	36%	917 023	324 372	35%	141 516	54 291	38%	
Croatia	99 491	53 453	54%	17 581	8 949	51%	81 909	44 504	54%	
Italy	498 007	207 663	42%	256 511	127 221	50%	241 496	80 442	33%	
Cyprus	10 602	3 696	35%	3 684	1 412	38%	6 918	2 284	33%	
Latvia	10 041	3 555	35%	5 514	1 789	32%	4 528	1 766	39%	
Lithuania	10 911	3 595	33%	7 191	2 323	32%	3 720	1 272	34%	
Luxembourg	4 052	1 597	39%	148	22	15%	3 904	1 575	40%	
Hungary	59 250	22 733	38%	37 328	13 298	36%	21 922	9 435	43%	
Malta	11 426	2 041	18%	650	204	31%	10 776	1 837	17%	
Netherlands	159 974	46 390	29%	98 667	31 918	32%	61 307	14 472	24%	
Austria	152 490	38 337	25%	41 038	11 720	29%	111 452	26 617	24%	
Poland	263 387	111 059	42%	224 767	100 701	45%	38 620	10 357	27%	
Portugal	143 319	55 657	39%	56 755	25 575	45%	86 564	30 081	35%	
Romania	88 585	26 502	30%	61 372	18 443	30%	27 213	8 058	30%	
Slovenia	12 343	4 296	35%	5 412	1 970	36%	6 931	2 326	34%	
Slovakia	38 501	12 128	31%	26 020	6 773	26%	12 481	5 355	43%	
Finland	88 743	25 929	29%	78 356	21 911	28%	10 388	4 018	39%	
Sweden	156 566	55 750	36%	118 553	41 595	35%	38 013	14 155	37%	

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_dem_tnw)



Table 4b: Intra-EU tourism nights by country visited and month of departure of the trip, July-August 2018 (thousand nights) Source: Eurostat (tour_dem_tnw)

Intra-EU tourism expenditure by country visited and month of departure of the trip, July-August 2018 (million euro)

Country visited	All intra-EU trips (domestic + inbound)			Domestic trips (residents of a country making trips in that country)			Inbound trips (by residents of other EU countries)			
	Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2 (% share in the		Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2 (% share in the		Jan-Dec 2018	July-August 2 (% share in the		
EU-27	380 334	109 480	29%	206 654	60 868	29%	173 680	48 612	28%	
Belgium	4 538	863	19%	815	285	35%	3 722	578	16%	
Bulgaria	2 735	1 461	53%	515	248	48%	2 221	1 214	55%	
Czechia	5 065	1 158	23%	2 019	628	31%	3 045	530	17%	
Denmark	8 815	2 300	26%	5 240	1 334	25%	3 575	966	27%	
Germany	64 411	13 421	21%	53 163	11 102	21%	11 249	2 320	21%	
Estonia	1 683	470	28%	548	156	28%	1 135	314	28%	
Ireland	4 340	1 187	27%	1 626	439	27%	2 714	748	28%	
Greece	15 342	6 020	39%	1 768	1 057	60%	13 575	4 963	37%	
Spain	64 203	17 511	27%	26 073	8 542	33%	38 131	8 969	24%	
France	72 649	22 318	31%	59 893	18 445	31%	12 756	3 873	30%	
Croatia	7 493	4 023	54%	630	263	42%	6 863	3 760	55%	
Italy	43 530	14 623	34%	16 073	6 839	43%	27 457	7 784	28%	
Cyprus	1 200	426	35%	188	67	36%	1 012	358	35%	
Latvia	601	196	33%	122	38	31%	479	158	33%	
Lithuania	523	169	32%	196	54	28%	327	115	35%	
Luxembourg	349	98	28%	11	1	12%	338	97	29%	
Hungary	3 042	1 057	35%	951	322	34%	2 091	734	35%	
Malta	1 437	289	20%	41	11	28%	1 396	278	20%	
Netherlands	10 929	2 545	23%	4 053	1 000	25%	6 877	1 545	22%	
Austria	16 627	3 723	22%	4 468	1 080	24%	12 159	2 643	22%	
Poland	10 656	3 945	37%	6 485	2 780	43%	4 171	1 165	28%	
Portugal	11 653	3 546	30%	2 007	783	39%	9 646	2 762	29%	
Romania	4 247	1 525	36%	2 161	729	34%	2 086	795	38%	
Slovenia	967	251	26%	241	90	37%	726	161	22%	
Slovakia	1 790	507	28%	1 002	266	27%	788	241	31%	
Finland	7 094	1 858	26%	5 770	1 419	25%	1 324	439	33%	
Sweden	14 415	3 990	28%	10 597	2 889	27%	3 818	1 101	29%	

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_dem_extotw)



Table 4c: Intra-EU tourism expenditure by country visited and month of departure of the trip, July-August 2018 (million euro) Source: Eurostat (tour_dem_extotw)

Source data for tables and graphs

Download Excel file

Data sources

Tourism, in a statistical context, refers to the activity of visitors taking a trip to a destination outside their usual environment, for less than a year. It can be for any main purpose, including business, leisure or other personal reasons other than to be employed by a resident person, household or enterprise in the place visited.

In July 2011, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union adopted a new Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 concerning European statistics on tourism and repealing Council Directive 95/57/EC; this came into force for reference year 2012 and requires EU Member States to provide a regular set of comparable tourism statistics.

Tourism statistics in the EU consist of two main components: on the one hand, statistics relating to capacity and occupancy of collective tourist accommodation; on the other, statistics relating to tourism demand. In most EU Member States, the former are collected via surveys filled in by accommodation establishments, while the latter are mainly collected via traveller surveys at border crossings or through household surveys.

Data from a range of other official sources may be used to study tourism. These statistics include:

- structural business statistics (SBS) and short-term business statistics (STS) which may be used to provide
 additional information on tourism flows and on the economic performance of certain tourism-related
 sectors;
 - data on employment in the tourism accommodation sector from the labour force survey (LFS), analysed by working time (full/part-time), working status, age, level of education, sex, permanency and seniority of work with the same employer (annual and guarterly data);
 - · data on personal travel receipts and expenditure from the balance of payments;
 - transport statistics (for example, air passenger transport).

Context

According to a United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) publication titled 'International Tourism Highlights', the EU is a major tourist destination, with four of its Member States among the world's top 10 destinations. Tourism has the potential to contribute towards employment and economic growth, as well as to development in rural, peripheral or less-developed areas. These characteristics drive the demand for reliable and harmonised statistics within this field, as well as within the wider context of regional policy and sustainable development policy areas.

Tourism can play a significant role in the development of European regions. Infrastructure created for tourism purposes contributes to local development, while jobs that are created or maintained can help counteract industrial or rural decline. Sustainable tourism involves the preservation and enhancement of cultural and natural heritage, ranging from the arts to local gastronomy or the preservation of biodiversity.

In 2006, the European Commission adopted a Communication titled 'A renewed EU tourism policy: towards a stronger partnership for European tourism' (COM(2006) 134 final). It addressed a range of challenges that will shape tourism in the coming years, including Europe's ageing population, growing external competition, consumer demand for more specialised tourism, and the need to develop more sustainable and environmentally-friendly tourism practices. It argued that more competitive tourism supply and sustainable destinations would help raise tourist satisfaction and secure Europe's position as the world's leading tourist destination. It was followed in October 2007 by another Communication, titled 'Agenda for a sustainable and competitive European tourism' (COM(2007) 621 final), which proposed actions in relation to the sustainable management of destinations, the integration of sustainability concerns by businesses, and the awareness of sustainability issues among tourists.

The Lisbon Treaty acknowledged the importance of tourism — outlining a specific competence for the EU in this field and allowing for decisions to be taken by a qualified majority. An article within the Treaty specifies that the EU 'shall complement the action of the Member States in the tourism sector, in particular by promoting the competitiveness of Union undertakings in that sector'. 'Europe, the world's No 1 tourist destination — a new political framework for tourism in Europe '(COM(2010) 352 final) was adopted by the European Commission in June 2010. This Communication seeks to encourage a coordinated approach for initiatives linked to tourism and defined a new framework for actions to increase the competitiveness of tourism and its capacity for sustainable growth. It proposed a number of European or multinational initiatives — including a consolidation of the socioeconomic knowledge base for tourism — aimed at achieving these objectives.

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Methodology

- Annual data on trips of EU residents (ESMS metadata file tour_dem_esms)
- Capacity and occupancy of tourist accommodation establishments (ESMS metadata file tour_occ_esms)
- · Methodological manual for tourism statistics
- Projects and studies, see Methodology for tourism statistics and Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA)

External links

 European Commission — Directorate-General (DG) for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs — Tourism

Legislation

 Agenda for a sustainable and competitive European tourism (Communication from the European Commission, October 2007)

Visualisation

• Regional Statistics Illustrated - select statistical domain 'Tourism' (top right)