



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
MINISTRY OF FINANCE



STATISTICAL SERVICE
1444 NICOSIA

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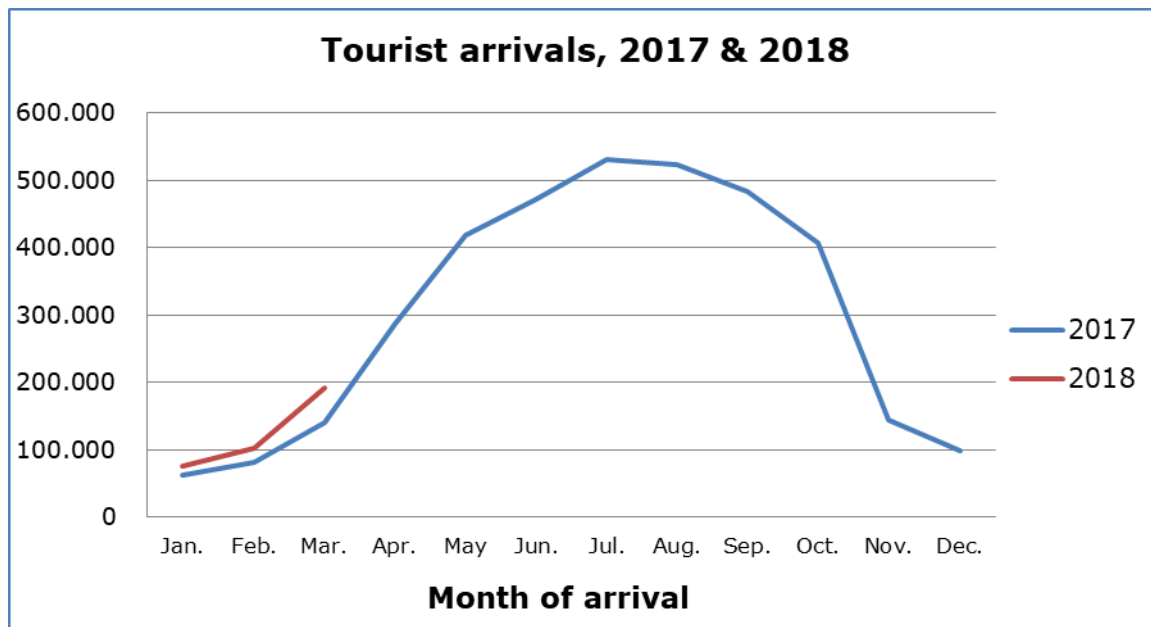
PRESS RELEASE

TOURIST ARRIVALS: MARCH 2018

Tourist arrivals +36,4%

On the basis of the results of the Passengers Survey, arrivals of tourists reached 192.090 in March 2018 compared to 140.873 in March 2017, recording an increase of 36,4%. March 2018 had the highest volume of tourist arrivals ever recorded in Cyprus during the specific month.

For the period of January – March 2018 arrivals of tourists totaled 369.438 compared to 285.693 in the corresponding period of 2017, recording an increase of 29,3% and outnumbering the total arrivals ever recorded in Cyprus during the first three months of the year (Table 1).



Analysis of changes

Tourist arrivals from the United Kingdom increased by 24,8% in March 2018 compared to March 2017 while an increase of 13,7% was recorded for tourists from Russia. Increases were also recorded from other important tourist markets, such as Germany (107,3%) and Israel (53,6%). Percentage changes from one year to the next for the main countries of usual residence of tourists are presented in Table 1.

Main countries

The United Kingdom constitutes the main source of tourism for Cyprus for March 2018, with a proportion of 35,5% while arrivals from Russia comprise 11,8% of total arrivals, from Germany 9,8% and from Israel 8,0% (Table 2).

Characteristics of tourists

For a percentage of 73,6% of tourists, the purpose of their trip in March 2018 was holidays, for 13,2% visit to friends and relatives and for 13,1% business (Table 3).

Men comprise 47,2% of tourists and women 52,8%, whilst most of the tourists belonged to the age group of 20-44 years (Table 3).

Table 1

Country of usual residence	March				January - March			
	Tourist arrivals			% change 2018/17	Tourist arrivals			% change 2018/17
	2016	2017	2018		2016	2017	2018	
TOTAL	137.013	140.873	192.090	36,4	251.608	285.693	369.438	29,3
Austria	2.587	2.493	2.679	7,5	3.727	3.492	3.769	7,9
Belgium	1.850	1.764	1.718	-2,6	3.854	3.293	2.960	-10,1
France	1.616	1.873	2.157	15,2	3.553	4.793	4.448	-7,2
Germany	12.917	9.090	18.843	107,3	18.325	14.411	27.089	88,0
Denmark	250	226	1.269	461,5	572	716	1.645	129,7
Switzerland (incl. Lichten.)	1.270	1.643	2.552	55,3	2.285	2.533	4.237	67,3
Greece	12.191	13.492	15.212	12,7	28.052	32.780	38.701	18,1
United Kingdom	59.282	54.571	68.121	24,8	96.011	99.503	123.726	24,3
Israel	5.122	9.983	15.333	53,6	12.549	20.819	32.735	57,2
Lebanon	1.963	1.711	2.375	38,8	4.766	4.013	5.891	46,8
Norway	1.502	1.210	1.831	51,3	2.624	2.362	3.303	39,8
Netherlands	525	1.121	1.333	18,9	1.243	1.906	2.585	35,6
Ukraine	2.273	1.724	2.351	36,4	5.246	4.021	5.494	36,6
Poland	2.746	2.002	3.305	65,1	6.302	4.179	7.539	80,4
Russia	12.835	19.910	22.635	13,7	25.501	48.028	45.449	-5,4
Sweden	1.648	1.469	3.895	165,1	2.259	2.330	5.427	132,9
Finland	437	149	409	174,5	704	388	671	72,9
Other	15.999	16.442	26.072	58,6	34.035	36.126	53.769	48,8

Table 2

Country of usual residence of tourists	Percentage (%)			
	Mar. 17	Jan – Mar. 17	Mar. 18	Jan. – Mar. 18
United Kingdom	38,7	34,8	35,5	33,5
Russia	14,1	16,8	11,8	12,3
Germany	6,5	5,0	9,8	7,3
Israel	7,1	7,3	8,0	8,9
Greece	9,6	11,5	7,9	10,5
Sweden	1,0	0,8	2,0	1,5
Poland	1,4	1,5	1,7	2,0
Other countries	21,5	22,3	23,3	24,0

Table 3

Purpose and characteristics of tourists	Percentage (%)		
	Mar. 16	Mar. 17	Mar. 18
Purpose			
Holidays	69,6	68,3	73,6
Visiting friends & relatives	18,0	15,5	13,2
Business	12,3	16,1	13,1
Sex*			
Males	51,0	47,8	47,2
Females	49,0	52,2	52,8
Age*			
<20	4,9	3,7	6,2
20-44	45,3	46,0	44,9
45-64	36,6	38,7	34,0
65+	12,6	11,3	13,9
Not stated	0,6	0,2	1,0

* Provisional data for March 2018.

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Definitions

Tourists – Visitors who stay for at least one night in Cyprus.

Tourist arrivals – The term refers to the number of trips and not to the number of persons. This differs in the sense that one person can take more than one trips during the reference period.

Source of data and coverage

The data are obtained from the Passengers Survey which is conducted in the arrivals and departures halls in the airports of Larnaka and Pafos, as well as from administrative sources such as the monthly arrivals at ports.

The survey covers all persons who pass through passport control at the ports and airports in the Government controlled area of Cyprus. It does not include travelers who arrive and depart illegally via ports and airports in the occupied part of Cyprus.

The weighting of data is conducted based on the data sent to the Statistical Service by the Civil Aviation Department and from the ship manifests, as well as from data sent by the Analysis and Statistics Office of the Cyprus Police.

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