



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE



STATISTICAL SERVICE  
1444 NICOSIA

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## PRESS RELEASE

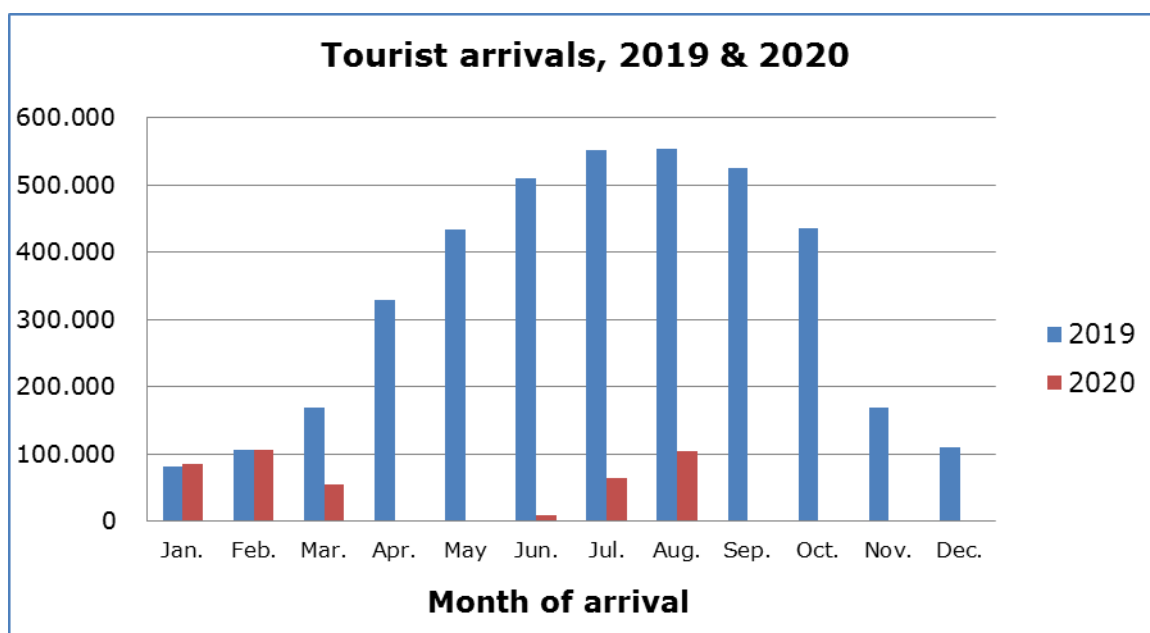
### TOURIST ARRIVALS: AUGUST 2020

#### Tourist Arrivals -81,2%

The arrivals of tourists reached 104.261 in August 2020 compared to 553.845 in August 2019, recording a decrease of 81,2%.

For the period of January – August 2020, arrivals of tourists totaled 424.850 compared to 2.735.839 in the corresponding period of 2019, recording a decrease of 84,5% (Table 1).

It should be noted that in March 2020, a ban of entry to the Republic was imposed on several categories of persons, including tourists, up to 8/6/2020, as part of the measures taken to prevent the spread of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) in Cyprus. As from 9/6/2020, a gradual easing of the travel restrictions to Cyprus was implemented, allowing the arrivals from specific countries, according to a categorisation by the Ministry of Health, based on their epidemiological risk assessment.



### **Analysis of changes**

Tourist arrivals from the United Kingdom decreased by 78,3% in August 2020 compared to August 2019, while a decrease of 23,1% was also recorded for tourists from Germany, 3,0% decrease from Poland, 43,8% decrease from Greece, 47,8% decrease from Switzerland and 29,5% from Austria. Percentage changes from one year to the next are presented in Table 1 for these main countries.

### **Purpose of visit**

For a percentage of 78,0% of tourists, the purpose of their trip in August 2020 was holidays, for 17,9% visit to friends and relatives and for 4,1% business (Table 2).

**Table 1**

Country of usual residence	August				January - August			
	Tourist arrivals			% change 2020/19	Tourist arrivals			% change 2020/19
	2018	2019	2020		2018	2019	2020	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>534.847</b>	<b>553.845</b>	<b>104.261</b>	<b>-81,2</b>	<b>2.719.622</b>	<b>2.735.839</b>	<b>424.850</b>	<b>-84,5</b>
United Kingdom	184.228	186.071	40.421	-78,3	919.972	933.343	117.304	-87,4
Germany	18.398	15.794	12.151	-23,1	120.071	98.574	31.563	-68,0
Poland	11.332	9.634	9.349	-3,0	61.098	52.124	24.699	-52,6
Greece	13.551	13.056	7.336	-43,8	121.733	112.546	45.698	-59,4
Switzerland (incl. Lichten.)	8.031	8.554	4.462	-47,8	47.073	43.379	13.799	-68,2
Austria	5.161	5.848	4.125	-29,5	26.881	28.089	9.635	-65,7
Other	294.146	314.888	26.417	-91,6	1.422.794	1.467.784	182.152	-87,6

**Table 2**

Purpose of visit	Percentage (%)		
	Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20
Holidays	88,3	88,1	78,0
Visiting friends & relatives	9,7	10,2	17,9
Business	1,9	1,7	4,1

## **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 statistics for August 2020 were obtained from processing of the data of the electronic platform “Cyprus Flight Pass”. The passengers aiming to travel to Cyprus were required to submit in the above mentioned platform, information in relation to their flight, their country of residence, the purpose of their visit, as well as other demographic characteristics. This information was used by the Statistical Service, in order to estimate the number of tourist arrivals during the reference period.

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

Due to issues that arose from the self-declared information provided by the passengers, it was not possible to provide a more extensive analysis by country of usual residence.

### ***For more information:***

Statistical Service (CYSTAT) Website, subtheme [Tourism](#)

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