

Tourism in the EU27 in 2006

Nearly 40% of all trips of four nights or more are made abroad

Large variations between Member States

EU27 inhabitants made 438 million trips¹ of four nights or more in 2006. Of those trips, 61% were domestic (made within the country) and 39% outbound (made in other countries). Among the Member States for which these data are available, there was a preference for domestic trips in twelve Member States and outbound in twelve. Over three quarters of trips made by the population in **Greece** (89%), **Romania** (88%), **Spain** (86%), **France** (83%), **Poland** (81%), **Portugal** (79%) and **Italy** (75%) were domestic trips. On the other hand, over 70% of all trips were outbound trips in **Luxembourg** (99%), **Belgium** (81%), **Ireland** (77%) and **Slovenia** (72%).

These figures come from a publication² from **Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities**, which deals with tourism in the EU by age group.

30% of trips of people aged 65 or more are made abroad

When observing the travel pattern by age group, domestic travel remained most popular in all age groups in the **EU27** in 2006: 61% of trips of four nights or more for those aged 15-24 were domestic, while this applied to 58% of all trips made by persons aged 25-64 and for the age group 65 and over it was 71%.

For young people aged 15 to 24, the travel pattern was nearly the same as for the average in all Member States, except for **Latvia** (57% of all trips were domestic for those aged 15-24 compared with 47% for the average) and the **United Kingdom** (64% of all trips were outbound for those aged 15-24 compared with 54% for the average).

For those aged 65 and over, domestic trips were in most Member States more frequent than the average. The highest differences were observed in **Lithuania** (85% of all trips were domestic for those aged 65 and over compared with 38% for the average), **Hungary** (92% compared with 64%) and **Slovenia** (54% compared with 28%).

Breakdown of trips¹ of four nights or more by age in %, 2006

	Total		15-24		25-64		65+	
	Domestic	Outbound	Domestic	Outbound	Domestic	Outbound	Domestic	Outbound
EU27	61	39	61	39	58	42	71	29
Belgium	19	81	21	79	18	82	24	76
Bulgaria	:		:	:	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic	56	44	57	43	54	46	73	27
Denmark	31	69	:	:	:	:	:	:
Germany	38	62	35	65	37	63	51	49
Estonia	33	67	:	:	:	:	:	:
Ireland	23	77	19	81	21	79	33	67
Greece	89	11	92	8	88	12	89	11
Spain	86	14	91	9	83	17	94	6
France	83	17	80	20	84	16	83	17
Italy	75	25	69	31	75	25	85	15
Cyprus	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Latvia	47	53	57	43	41	59	66	34
Lithuania	38	62	38	62	32	68	85	15
Luxembourg	1	99	1	99	1	99	1	99
Hungary	64	36	61	39	59	41	92	8
Malta	:		:	:	:	:	:	:
Netherlands	38	62	34	66	36	64	50	50
Austria	37	63	:	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	81	19	83	17	79	21	87	13
Portugal	79	21	81	19	77	23	85	15
Romania	88	12	90	10	87	13	88	12
Slovenia	28	72	20	80	26	74	54	46
Slovakia	53	47	55	45	51	49	70	30
Finland	69	31	73	27	68	32	72	28
Sweden	57	43	61	39	56	44	60	40
United Kingdom	46	54	36	64	44	56	60	40

: Data not available

1. Trips for leisure, business and other purposes.
2. Eurostat, Statistics in Focus, 69/2008, "Tourism in Europe: does age matter?". This publication is available free of charge in PDF format on the Eurostat website.

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