



METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

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TOURISM TRAVELS OF DOMESTIC POPULATION

This methodological explanation relates to the data releases:

- Tourism Travels of Domestic Population, Slovenia, quarterly (First Release)
- Tourism Travels of Domestic Population, Slovenia, annually (First release)



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1 PURPOSE

The purpose of publishing the data is to present the characteristics of tourism (business and private) travels of the Slovenian population: why, when, where, for how long and how people travel and how much money they spend. The purpose of publishing the data is also to find out why some people do not leave their homes for the purpose of private trips.

The following data are classified as key statistics:

- Number of residents that went/did not go on a tourism trip
- Number of trips
- Number of overnight stays
- Average number of overnights stays
- Average expenditure per tourist per overnight stay
- Number of residents that went/did not go on a same-day visit
- Number of same-day visits abroad
- Average expenditure per person on a same-day visit abroad

2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- [Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys \(LPSR\) \(only in Slovene\)](#)
- [National Statistics Act \(OJ RS, No. 45/95 and 9/01\)](#)
- [Regulation \(EU\) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council \(CELEX: 32011R0692\)](#)

3 UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA

Units described by the published data are:

- A resident of Slovenia who participated in at least one tourism trip (1)
- A resident of Slovenia who did not participate in any private trip (2)
- A tourism trip (3)
- A same-day visit (4)

Residents of Slovenia who participated in tourism trips (1) are divided by sex, age, education, employment status, monthly net income per household member, degree of urbanization and number of trips.

Residents of Slovenia who did not participate in private trips (2) are divided by the main reason for not going (by sex, age, education, employment status, monthly net income per household member and degree of urbanization).

Tourism trips (3) are divided by characteristics of trips: by destination of the trip (Slovenia/abroad) and by sex of tourists. Private trips are additionally divided by age of tourists, means of transport, means of accommodation, country of the

trip and main reason for the private trip.

Same-day visits (4) are divided by type of same-day visit and by country of same-day visit.

4 SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT

The observation units are residents of Slovenia aged at least 15 years living in private households.

The survey Tourism travels of domestic population is a stratified survey. The basis for the sampling frame are persons selected from the Central Population Register.

Observation units are selected persons who are part of the sample. The sample is stratified. Strata are defined by age group (4 groups), by level of attained education (4 groups) and by assigned public telephone number. Each stratum is sampled independently. The number of persons in each stratum is in principle proportional to the percentage of targeted population from strata. Their number slightly changes depending on the interviewing rates in the stratum in the past quarters. The survey is conducted by telephone (the name and the address of the selected sample of persons is linked with the phone directory) and by an online questionnaire.

For the 2021 and 2022 survey, we selected 7,000 persons/units in the sample for first, second and third quarter (3,500 in the sample for the telephone survey and 3,500 in the sample for the online questionnaire). In the fourth quarter, all-together 10.000 units were selected (5000 for the telephone survey and 5000 for the online questionnaire). For the 2023 survey, we selected 7,000 persons in the sample for first, second and third quarter (2,000 in the sample for the telephone survey and 5,000 in the sample for the online questionnaire). In the fourth quarter, all-together 10.000 units were selected (2800 for the telephone survey and 7200 for the online questionnaire).

5 SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Data are collected quarterly.

Data on tourism trips of domestic population are collected with the survey "Tourism travels of domestic population" (TU-CAP). The survey is carried out quarterly, i.e. every three months: January, April, July and October. The reference period is the quarter preceding the month of interviewing.

Before the start of the survey, we send a notification letter to the selected persons by post. In the letter for the telephone survey, we inform them that they will be called shortly by the interviewer of the statistical office and we will inform them about the content of the survey. In a survey letter via an online questionnaire, we send them a link to the online questionnaire and ask them to

complete it by a certain deadline. In case they do not fill in the questionnaire in 7 or 14 days, we send them two more reminders.

Data are collected by computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) and by an online questionnaire (WEB). The selected person answers the questions. If the selected person is absent, another member of the household can answer the questions, but on behalf of the selected person. All questions, except the question on expenditure for travelling, refer only to the selected person. The question on expenditure for private trips can refer to all participants who went on the trip.

Data for the survey are not obtained from administrative sources.

6 DEFINITIONS

Tourism includes the activities of people travelling and staying away from their place of usual environment for less than a year (365 days), for leisure, business or other reasons, other than to be employed by a resident entity in the place visited. Tourism includes trips with overnight stays as well as same-day visits. Some non-voluntary purposes of trips are excluded by convention: non-voluntary stays in hospital or other medical institutions providing clinical/medical treatment, which is prescribed by doctor, stays in prison, etc.

This is the basic definition adopted by the World Tourism Organisation (WTO) and thus also by our country since Slovenia is a member of this organisation. The definition was also adopted by EU Member States and it is quoted in regulations concerning tourism statistics.

Tourists are persons who travel to and stay in a place that is not part of their usual environment and who spend at least one night there (but not more than 365 nights consecutively) for leisure, business or other reasons, but not to make profit in the place visited (the persons are not remunerated).

Usual environment of a person is immediate surroundings of the person's home and place of work or study, or other places that the person visits regularly. Each person has only one "usual" environment, so various holiday homes and similar dwellings are not part of the usual environment; even spending several days there, especially during the weekends, is treated as a tourism trip. Only exceptionally, if departures are regular - i.e. every weekend in the observed period - the usual environment can be expanded to the holiday home and so these departures are not counted as tourism trips.

In the Survey on Tourism Travels of Domestic Population, we asked also about regular, weekly departures to the same place. These trips were taken into account in the total number of trips only if the respondent did not go there more than 10 times in the reference period, i.e. not every weekend.

Tourism trip is every departure from home for the above reasons when at least one night is spent but not more than 365 nights consecutively. Every trip covers journey and staying. It can have several stops on the way but there is only one final destination. There is also only one main reason, i.e. the one without which

the trip would not take place. Tourism trips are divided by the main reason into:

- business trips and
- private trips.

Business trips are those the main reason of which is of professional or study nature, e.g. congresses, seminars, business meetings, professional sport participation, etc.

Private trips are those the main reason of which is:

- leisure time (holidays, travels),
- visiting relatives and friends (funerals, marriages and similar reasons),
- other reasons (unknown).

In private trips for which the reason was leisure, the participants could decide among the following activities during the trip:

- relaxation, resting,
- recreation,
- sight-seeing,
- culture, entertainment, sports as spectator,
- culture, entertainment, sports as participant (as an amateur),
- shopping,
- education,
- health reasons,
- pilgrimages, religious events, other.

These trips are **not considered** to be tourism trips:

- weekly migration or departure for work or schooling,
- seasonal work,
- staying in hospitals,
- departure to prison,
- refugees and asylum seekers,
- one-day trips without spending the night.

Same-day visits are visits without overnight stay made by residents outside their usual environment and which originated from the place of usual residence.

The reference period is the quarter before the month in which the survey is implemented. This means that the trip should have been finished in this period, while it can start one year before at the most.

1. 1st quarter: date of a return from the trip is between 1 January and 31 March
2. 2nd quarter: date of a return from the trip is between 1 April and 30 June
3. 3rd quarter: date of a return from the trip is between 1 July and 30 September
4. 4th quarter: date of a return from the trip is between 1 October and 31 December

Duration of trip is measured with nights spent. With regard to the number of nights spent, we distinguish between shorter and longer trips. On shorter trips tourists spend 1-3 nights and on longer ones four or more nights.

Average expenditure on tourism trips comprises travelling expenses, expenses for accommodation, food and beverage, shopping, entrance fees, etc.

Monthly net income per household member is calculated from the total monthly net income of the household: wages/salaries, pensions, income from activity, property, farming, unemployment benefits, scholarships, child benefits, etc.

Up to 2011, **annual data** that refer to people and their participation in tourism trips covered business trips and only longer private trips, while data relating to tourism trips covered all private and all business trips. From 2012 on, data on participation in tourism trips and data relating to tourism trips cover all business and all private trips.

7 EXPLANATIONS

7.1 CLASSIFICATIONS

Data are not published by classification.

7.2 DATA PROCESSING

DATA EDITING

Data were edited with appropriate imputation procedures and by using appropriate individual corrections. The following imputation methods were used: logical imputations, mean imputations and hot-deck imputations.

For more, see the general methodological explanations [Statistical data editing](#).

WEIGHTING

With weighting adjustment we want to achieve representativeness of the sample, so that the weighted data give us as good population estimates as possible. The process of weighting depends on the sampling design, the unit non-response rate and available auxiliary variables used for calibration. The final weight is the product of the sampling weight, the non-response weight and the calibration factor. Collected data are weighted on the structure and number of residents aged 15 years or more living in private households.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

Seasonal adjustment is not applicable.

7.3 INDICES

Indices are not published.

7.4 PRECISION

In statistical surveys different kinds of errors can occur (e.g. sampling error, non-response error, measurement error) influencing the reliability and accuracy of the statistical results. Errors deriving from the random mechanisms determine the precision and consequently the reliability of the statistical estimates. The precision of the statistical estimate is estimated by calculating the standard error (SE). The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia draws attention to less reliable estimates by flagging them with a special sign.

1. If the table contains estimated population totals of (continuous) variables, estimated averages of continuous variables or estimated ratios of population totals of (continuous) variables, publishing limitations are determined by the relative standard errors or the coefficients of variation (CV). In such cases it holds:

If the coefficient of variation (CV) is

- 10% or below ($CV \leq 10\%$), the estimate is reliable enough and is published without limitations;
- between 10% and up to 30% ($10\% < CV \leq 30\%$), the estimate is less reliable and is flagged for caution with letter M;
- over 30% ($CV > 30\%$), the estimate is too unreliable to be published and therefore suppressed for use by letter N.

2. If the table contains an estimated number of units with certain characteristics or estimated proportions of units with a certain characteristic (expressed with values between 0 and 1), publishing limitations are determined by the standard errors of the estimates (SE) of the proportions. In such cases it holds:

If the standard error (SE) of the estimate of a proportion is

- 0,05 or below ($SE \leq 0,05$), the estimate is reliable enough and is published without limitations;
- between 0.05 and up to 0.15 ($0.05 < SE \leq 0.15$), the estimate is less reliable and is flagged for caution with letter M;
- over 0.15 ($SE > 0.15$), the estimate is too unreliable to be published and therefore suppressed for use by letter N.

For more, see the general methodological explanations [Precision of statistical estimates](#).

7.5 OTHER EXPLANATIONS

The user of survey estimates (data) should take into account that estimates published without limitations are sufficiently precise, while those that are flagged with letter M are less precise and should be used with caution.

Totals are not always accurate due to rounding.

8 PUBLISHING

- SiStat Database: [Tourism](#) - Travels of resident population;

Data are published in the form of absolute values, structural shares and averages. Quarterly data are shown only at the national level, certain annual data on private travel are also shown at the level of statistical regions and (selected) municipalities.

- First Release (Tourism, Travels of Resident Population): »Tourism travels of domestic population, Slovenia, quarterly«.
- First Release (Tourism, Travels of Resident Population): »Tourism travels of domestic population, Slovenia, annually«.
- [Statobook](#)
- EUROSTAT (Statistical Office of the European Union)
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

9 REVISION OF THE DATA

9.1 PUBLISHING OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DATA

Provisional data are not disseminated. Only final data are published.

9.2 FACTORS INFLUENCING COMPARABILITY OVER TIME

With the 1st quarter of 2021, data are collected in a revised manner, via telephone and online surveys. The results from the 1st quarter of 2021 and further are thus not comparable with the results from previous periods, as there was a break in the data series.

10 OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS

Methodological materials on SURS's website are available at <https://www.stat.si/statweb/en/Methods/QuestionnairesMethodologicalExplanationsQualityReports>.

- Questionnaire:
 - Turistična potovanja domačega prebivalstva (TU-ČAP)

področje: Turizem, podpodročje: Potovanja prebivalcev Slovenije

- Quality report for the survey:
 - Tourism Travels of Domestic Population (TU-ČAP)

Theme: Tourism, SubTheme: Travels of Resident Population