



METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

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TOURIST ARRIVALS AND OVERNIGHT STAYS

This methodological explanation relates to the data releases:

- Tourist arrivals and overnight stays, Slovenia, monthly (First Release)
- Tourist arrivals and overnight stays, Slovenia, annually (Electronic Release)



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1 PURPOSE

The purpose of publishing statistical data on tourist arrivals and overnight stays and on capacity of tourist accommodation establishments is monitoring tourist activity in Slovenia. We are publishing basic indicators on the development of Slovenian tourism, which are, among other things, necessary for analysing tourist activity in Slovenia.

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 concerning European statistics on tourism and repealing Council Directive 95/57/EC, (OJ, No. L 192/17)
- Residence Registration Act (OJ RS, No. 52/16)
- Rules on the Registration and Deregistration of Guests (OJ RS, No. 75/16)

3 UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA

The unit described by published data is the accommodation establishment and the tourist arrival and overnight stay.

Accommodation capacities are shown by groups of accommodation establishments and by types of tourist municipalities (monthly and annually) and additionally by statistical regions, "tourist macro destinations" and municipalities (annually).

Tourist arrivals and overnight stays are shown by groups of accommodation establishments, types of tourist municipalities, statistical regions, municipalities and country of residence (monthly and annually) and additionally by "tourist macro destinations" (annually). Based on these data, some selected indicators are calculated.

4 SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT

The survey covers catering and other tourist accommodation establishments. On 1 December 2017 the Register of Accommodation Establishments (RNO) was established, managed by the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services (AJPES). This means that the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (SURS) has the appropriate administrative resources available for the survey on monthly accommodation statistics, which enables full and continuous coverage of all accommodation establishments.

The selection of observation units is complete: the statistical survey covers all accommodation units operating under the Hospitality Industry Act (ZGos) and registered in the Register of Accommodation Establishments. In the register hotels, motels, boarding houses, overnight accommodations, inns, hotel and apartment settlements, mountain huts and other vacation facilities, camping sites, private accommodations at private providers of accommodation, farms with accommodation and marinas are registered.

The survey covers all arrivals and overnight stays of domestic and foreign tourists who register in the accommodation establishment at their arrival. Accommodation providers report the data through the electronic data reporting system eTurizem, which is also managed by AJPES.

5 SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Data are collected monthly.

Data for the survey "Arrivals and overnight stays of tourists" (TU/M) carried out by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia are obtained from two sources: data on accommodation establishments from the RNO and data on tourist arrivals and overnight stays and on availability and occupancy of accommodation capacities via the eTurizem system. Accommodation providers and hosts daily report data on tourists (guests) and their overnight stays at the latest 12 hours after the arrival of tourists. The data on the operation, indivisible units sold, the number of days when the accommodation unit was opened and the number of beds are reported by accommodation establishments monthly for the previous month (also via the eTurizem system).

6 DEFINITIONS

Tourism includes the activities of people travelling and staying away from their usual environment for at least one day (spending at least one night), but not more than a year (365 days) continuously, for leisure, business and other purposes.

Tourists are persons travelling to a place other than that of their usual environment, staying in a hotel or some other tourist accommodation in the place/country visited for at least one night (but not more than 365 nights consecutively) for leisure, business or other reasons, but not to make profit in the place visited (they receive no remuneration).

Tourists are registered on their arrival to any tourist accommodation where they spend the night; therefore, it can happen that their registration in a place/country is multiplied. This is why we collect the data on tourist arrivals.

Domestic tourists are persons with permanent residence in Slovenia who temporarily stay in some other place in Slovenia for leisure, business and other

reasons and in that place spend at least one night in a hotel or some other tourist accommodation.

Foreign tourists are persons who come to Slovenia from abroad and temporarily stay in a certain place in this country for leisure, business and other reasons and they spend at least one night in a hotel or some other tourist accommodation. We record the nationality of foreign tourists according to their country of residence (an assumption is made that the country of usual residence equals the country of citizenship reported at the registration of the tourist at the accommodation establishment).

Tourist arrivals are defined as the number of persons who arrive at a tourist accommodation and check in. No age limit is applied: children are counted even if the overnight stays of children are free of charge.

An overnight stay is every night that a tourist actually spends in a tourist accommodation (by sleeping or being there) or that s/he is registered in a tourist accommodation (his/her physical presence there is thus not necessary).

Tourist arrivals index measures (domestic and foreign) tourist arrivals dynamics. At the monthly level we publish moving base indices (current month/the same month of the previous year, sum of months in current year/sum of the same months of the previous year).

Tourist overnight stays index measures (domestic and foreign) tourist overnight stays dynamics. At the monthly level we publish moving base indices (current month/the same month of the previous year, sum of months in current year/sum of the same months of the previous year).

Average length of stay is calculated as a coefficient of nights spent and arrivals of tourists:

$$\frac{\text{number of overnight stays}}{\text{number of arrivals}}$$

Register of Accommodation Establishments (RNO) is a public database of accommodation establishments. All providers of accommodation must register in the RNO (for all the guests, the owners, the farmers and the managers of the marinas, which offer guests accommodation in the accommodation facilities and are registered in the Business Register of Slovenia. RNO is managed by AJPES.

eTurizem is a system for reporting data on tourists and their overnight stays for the purpose of keeping guest records, monitoring the calculation of the tourist tax and for reporting data for statistical purposes.

Accommodation establishments capacities are shown as the number of indivisible units and bedplaces that are available to tourists in each month. Bedplaces are either permanent or auxiliary.

Accommodation establishments capacities are at the annual level shown as a sum of the maximum number of bedplaces, which were available in each accommodation establishment in the year.

Number of indivisible units is the number of available (indivisible) units in the accommodation unit. The unit stands for indivisible rentable unit as a whole. One (indivisible) unit is a room, an apartment, a hut, a bungalow, a house, a place or a camping place, a berth.

Permanent bedplaces are those constantly available for rent to tourists. Shared beds in mountain huts are also considered to be permanent bedplaces.

Auxiliary bedplaces are those extra set up to increase the comfort of guests (a sofa, a divan, etc.) and other extra set up to increase the accommodation establishments capacities during the high season or at guest's request.

The net occupancy rate of bedplaces is expressed in percentages and can be calculated for all bedplaces (permanent and auxiliary) with the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{number of overnight stays} \times 100}{\text{number of bedplaces} \times \text{number of days}}$$

The net occupancy rate of indivisible units is expressed in percentages and is calculated with the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{number of indivisible units sold} \times 100}{\text{number of indivisible units} \times \text{number of days}}$$

7 EXPLANATIONS

7.1 CLASSIFICATIONS

All hospitality facilities, depending on their range of services, are classified into types, whereas facilities offering accommodation are classified into categories according to type and quality of service. **Accommodation facilities** are according to the Hospitality Industry Act (OJ RS, No. 93/07) classified into the following **types**: hotels, motels, boarding houses, overnight accommodation facilities, guesthouses, hotel and holiday villages, mountain lodges and other houses and campsites. Hospitality activity can be performed also by room providers, by farmers, by natural persons and by marina managers, if they fulfil the conditions provided in the mentioned Act.

According to the Rules on Categorisation of Accommodation Facilities (OJ RS, No. 22/18) **accommodation facilities are classified into the following groups**: hotels, motels, boarding houses and guesthouses, campsites, apartments (holiday flats and holiday homes), rooms, farms with accommodation and marinas. All listed types of accommodation facilities need to be categorised according to the mentioned Rules; their category, for which they fulfil the provided conditions, is marked by the number of stars or – in the case of farms with accommodation – by the number of apples; the number of

stars or apples indicates the quality of service.

Besides data on accommodation facilities, for which categorisation is obligatory, also data on accommodation facilities which are not categorised by the mentioned Rules are collected. Such facilities are youth hostels, mountain huts, vacation establishments, other accommodation facilities and temporary accommodation facilities (student dormitories and boarding schools, which are available to tourists during holidays).

Groups of tourist accommodations. Accommodation establishments are classified into the following groups:

- hotels and similar accommodation establishments:
 - hotels,
 - motels,
 - boarding houses,
 - inns,
 - overnight accommodations;
- camping sites;
- other accommodation establishments:
 - apartment settlements,
 - tourist farms with accommodation,
 - youth hostels,
 - private accommodations – rented rooms, dwellings, houses,
 - mountain huts,
 - vacation facilities,
 - other accommodation establishments,
 - temporary accommodation establishments and marinas.

As a kind of accommodation youth hostels have been in the classification of types of accommodations from 2010 onwards. In 2008–2009 they were classified among different types of accommodations: overnight accommodation, private accommodations – rented rooms, dwellings and vacation facilities for youth, private rooms, apartments and houses or vacation facilities for youth.

Types of tourist municipalities. Municipalities are according to statistical criteria classified into the following types:

- *Health (spa) resorts, i.e.* municipalities where the health resorts are located that have fulfilled the strict conditions required for inclusion in the national health care system
- *Mountain resorts, i.e.* municipalities which are located in the area of Alps (Julijske Alpe, Kamniško-Savinjske Alpe and Karavanke) or in the area of Pohorje
- *Seaside resorts, i.e.* municipalities located along the sea coast
- *The (Slovenian) capital, Ljubljana*
- *Urban municipalities*
- *Other municipalities, i.e.* all those municipalities not falling within any of the above groups

Some municipalities could be classified into more than one category mentioned above, which is why we had to make some exceptions in classification. Detailed classification of types of tourist municipalities is published on SURS's website (at Klasje – Classification server, see: [Types of municipalities for tourist arrivals and overnight stays in eTourism](#)).

Statistical regions. According to the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS), Slovenia is divided into three territorial levels. NUTS1 level represents Slovenia as a whole country, at NUTS2 level the country is divided into two cohesion regions – Vzhodna Slovenija and Zahodna Slovenija – and at NUTS3 level the country is broken down into 12 statistical regions – Pomurska, Podravska, Koroška, Savinjska, Zasavska, Posavska, Jugovzhodna Slovenija, Osrednjeslovenska, Gorenjska, Notranjsko-kraška, Goriška and Obalno-kraška.

Detailed classification of Slovenian municipalities into statistical regions is published on SURS's website (at Klasje – Classification server, see: [NUTS_SKTE - Šifrant kohezijskih regij, statističnih regij, občin in naselij](#)).

»Tourist macro destinations«. In order to implement the strategy of sustainable growth of Slovenian tourism, the Slovenian Tourist Board divided the territory of Slovenia into four geographically rounded units, which were named »tourist macro destinations«. Each »tourist macro destination« was given its own name: »Alpine Slovenia«, »Ljubljana & Central Slovenia«, »Mediterranean & Karst Slovenia« and »Thermal Pannonian Slovenia«. Each of them includes municipalities that share the same or similar tourist offers or products. Detailed classification of Slovenian municipalities into »tourist macro destinations« is published on SURS's website (at Klasje – Classification server, see: [eTUR_Makrodest – Šifrant »turističnih makro destinacij« za nastanitveno statistiko](#)).

7.2 DATA PROCESSING

DATA EDITING

Data were edited with the combination of systematic corrections, individual corrections and imputation procedures. The following imputation methods were used: logical imputations, hot-deck imputations and historical imputations.

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

WEIGHTING

Weighting was not performed.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

Seasonal adjustment is not applicable.

7.3 INDICES

Tourist arrivals index measures (domestic and foreign) tourist arrivals dynamics. At the monthly level we publish moving base indices (current month/the same month of the previous year, sum of months in current year/sum of the same months of the previous year).

Tourist overnight stays index measures (domestic and foreign) tourist overnight stays dynamics. At the monthly level we publish moving base indices (current month/the same month of the previous year, sum of months in current year/sum of the same months of the previous year).

7.4 PRECISION

The precision is not calculated.

7.5 OTHER EXPLANATIONS

Data that are statistically protected to respect the confidentiality of reporting units are replaced with the letter »z«.

8 PUBLISHING

- SiStat Database: Economy – [Tourism](#) – Accommodation of tourists. Absolute data and percentages are published.
- First Release (Tourism, Accommodation of tourists): »Tourist arrivals and overnight stays, Slovenia, monthly«. Absolute data, percentages and indices are published.
- Electronic Release (Tourism, Accommodation of tourists): »Tourist arrivals and overnight stays, detailed data, Slovenia, (year)«. Absolute data, percentages and indices are published.
- [Statobook](#)
- EUROSTAT (Statistical Office of the European Union)
- United Nations (UN)
- The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

9 REVISION OF THE DATA

9.1 PUBLISHING OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DATA

Due to the needs of users for timely information, we publish data 25 days after the reference month at the latest in an electronic release, namely First Release

(»Tourist arrivals and overnight stays, Slovenia, monthly«).

Final monthly data on accommodation facilities and tourist traffic are published in the SiStat Database ([Tourism Accommodation of tourists](#)).

Publishing of provisional and final data is planned. Due to the needs of users for timely information, provisional data are published that meet the criteria of the quality of official statistical data but do not meet the quality that can be met with complete coverage. Data are revised when recent, more complete and better data can significantly contribute to the quality of data-based decision-making.

9.2 FACTORS INFLUENCING COMPARABILITY OVER TIME

The first change in the methodology and the first break in the time series occurred in 2008. The main differences in the new methodology were: the changed way of preparing the framework of the observed units; imputation of data for units that did not communicate data in time; introduction of a coverage threshold for monthly data reporting. A different way of publishing data was also introduced.

The survey methodology was changed in 2018 again. The main differences in the new methodology are: the changed way of preparing the framework of the observed units (full coverage); abolishing the coverage threshold for monthly data reporting; collecting data from administrative sources. A different way of publishing data was also introduced.

Data until December 2017, prepared according to the old methodologies, are available in the SiStat Database in the Archive (Tourism – Accommodation of tourists – Accommodation statistics, monthly data *and* Tourism – Accommodation of tourists – Accommodation statistics, annual data).

Data on tourist arrivals and overnight stays, and on tourist accommodation capacities for the 2010–2017 period were recalculated and newly estimated according to the new survey methodology introduced in 2018 (full coverage of accommodation establishments on a monthly basis). Recalculation of data for 2017 is based on micro data by using imputation procedures at the level of individual units (accommodation establishments) for the missing part of the population. New estimates for the 2010–2016 period were made by adequate model at the macro level (aggregates at the lowest level of particular domains).

Data for 2018 and recalculated monthly and annual data for the 2010–2017 period in line with the new methodology introduced in 2018 are available in the SiStat Database (Tourism – Accommodation of tourists).

Methodological explanation on revision of statistical data is available on <https://www.stat.si/dokument/5299/RevisionOfStatisticalDataMEgeneral.pdf>

10 OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS

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

- Questionnaire:
 - SURS does not collect data for this survey by using a questionnaire.
- Methodological explanations:
 - Tourist arrivals and overnight stays

Theme: Tourism, Subtheme: Accommodation of tourists

- Methodological note