

Movements of citizens in Albania

March 2024

Tirana, 25 April 2024: Arrivals of Albanian and foreign citizens to the territory of Albania, in March 2024 are 1,150,442. Compared to March 2023, this indicator increased by 35.9 %. Albanian and foreign citizen's departures from the territory of Albania during March 2024 are 1,175,710 marking an increase by 39.6 %, compared to the same period of the previous year.

Citizen's arrivals

In March 2024, arrivals of Albanian citizens to the territory of Albania are 585,467. Compared to March 2023, this number increased by 26.6 %.

Arrivals of foreign citizens to the territory of Albania are 564,975. Compared to the same period of 2023, this number increased by 47.1 % (fig.1).

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Fig. 1 Movements of citizens in Albania, March 2023- March 2024

Source: General Directorate of State's Police, INSTAT calculations

Citizen's departures

Departures of Albanian citizens from the territory of Albania during March 2024 are 604,102. Compared to March 2023, this number has increased by 30.6 %.

Departures of foreign citizens from the territory of Albania during February 2024 are 571,608. Compared to the same period of previous year, this number increased by 50.4 % (tab.1).

Tab. 1 Movements of Albanian and foreign citizens

Period	March 2023	March 2024	Annual change (%)	January – March 2023	January – March 2024	Annual change (%)
Total arrivals	846,645	1,150,442	35.9	2,375,341	3,161,751	33.1
Albanian	462,617	585,467	26.6	1,304,777	1,626,638	24.7
Foreign	384,028	564,975	47.1	1,070,564	1,535,113	43.4
Total departures	842,428	1,175,710	39.6	2,490,382	3,396,175	36,4
Albanian	462,483	604,102	30.6	1,394,250	1,755,965	25,9
Foreign	379,945	571,608	50.4	1,096,132	1,640,210	49.6

Source: General Directorate of State's Police, INSTAT calculations

In March 2024, the region with the highest inflows of citizens in Albania is the European region with 539,683 citizens, followed by America and East Asia and Pacific, respectively with 14,267 and 5,254 citizens (tab.2).

Tab. 2 Arrivals of foreign citizens by region

Period	March 2023	March 2024	January - March 2023	January – March 2024
Total	384,028	564,975	1,070,564	1,535,113
I . Africa	450	1,648	1,475	3,082
II. America	8,952	14,267	22,253	31,281
III.East Asia and Pacific	2,183	5,254	4,854	10,390
IV.Middle East	562	721	1,428	2,057
V. South Asia	842	2,344	1,816	3,892
VI. Europe	369,935	539,683	1,036,249	1,474,946
- Central /Eastern Europe	11,737	33,137	28,829	69,471
- Northen Europe	12,461	25,274	30,059	56,591
- Southern Europe	319,348	426,950	910,107	1,234,236
- Western Europe	17,246	39,215	42,350	76,301
- East/ Mediterranean Europe	9,143	15,107	24,904	38,347
VII. Other countries not specified	1,104	1,058	2,489	9,465

Source: General Directorate of State's Police, INSTAT calculations

In March 2024 compared to March 2023, the arrivals of foreign citizens mark:

- increase, for personal purposes by 45.2 %;
- increase, for vacation purposes, visiting relatives, etc. by 44.7 %;
- increase, for business and professional purposes by 2.1 times (tab. 3).

Tab. 3 Arrivals of foreign citizens by purpose

Period	March 2023	March 2024	Annual change (%)	January - March 2023	January - March 2024	Annual change (%)
Arrivals foreign citizens	384,028	564,975	47.1	1,070,564	1,535,113	43.4
I. Personal	372,090	540,251	45.2	1,042,609	1,489,124	42.8
Holidays, visit to relatives, etc.	354,429	512,990	44.7	993,464	1,423,466	43.3
2. Health treatment	25	70	180.0	180	179	-0.6
3. Religious	22	55	150.0	80	98	22.5
4. Transit	17,614	27,090	53.8	48,885	65,381	33.7
II. Business and professional	11,938	24,770	107.5	27,955	45,989	64.5

Source: General Directorate of State's Police, INSTAT calculations

Methodology

The purpose of the publication for arrivals and departures of Albanian and foreign citizens, by means of transport (sea, air, land and border points), is the measurement of some statistical indicators related to tourism.

Definitions

Arrivals: Include all entries at the border points (by, air, sea and land).

Arrivals is a concept that refers to all entries. A person who visits some countries simultaneously during the year is counted every time as a new entry.

Departures: Includes all exits at the border points. Departures measure the flow of citizens who leave the country of reference. A person who leaves the country of reference several times during a year is always counted as a new exit.

Visitor: For statistical purposes on tourism, the term "visitor" represents a "person who travels in a different place from that in which he resides, in a period shorter than 12 months and major aim of travel in the place visited is a non-profit activity".

The purpose of the trip includes visits of visitors and tourists for:

Visits for personal purposes grouped as follows:

- 1. Holidays, visit to relatives, etc.;
- 2. Health treatment,
- 3. Religious;
- 4. Tranzit.

Visits for *Business category* includes all business and professional activities outside the usual environment.

Data Source: Administrative data are provided by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (State Police, Border and Migration Directorate).

The data are preliminary and subject of revisions. For more information refer to: http://www.instat.gov.al/en/documentation/quality-in-statistics/ statistical revision policy.

The statistical differences between arrivals and departures of Albanian or foreign nationals come mainly from:

- Law No.71 / 2016 "On Border Control", Article 17 "Facilitation of Border Verifications", where during the tourist season or increased inflow, at the moment of entry of citizens at the border, does not register all the incoming citizens;
- The facilitating procedures applied to residents of border areas crossing the border due to their commercial activity, when they cross several times a day, are not registered at the entrance;
- A good share of Albanians hold dual citizenship, who at the time of border crossing July declare different citizenship at exit from it at the entrance, etc.