

Movements of citizens in Albania

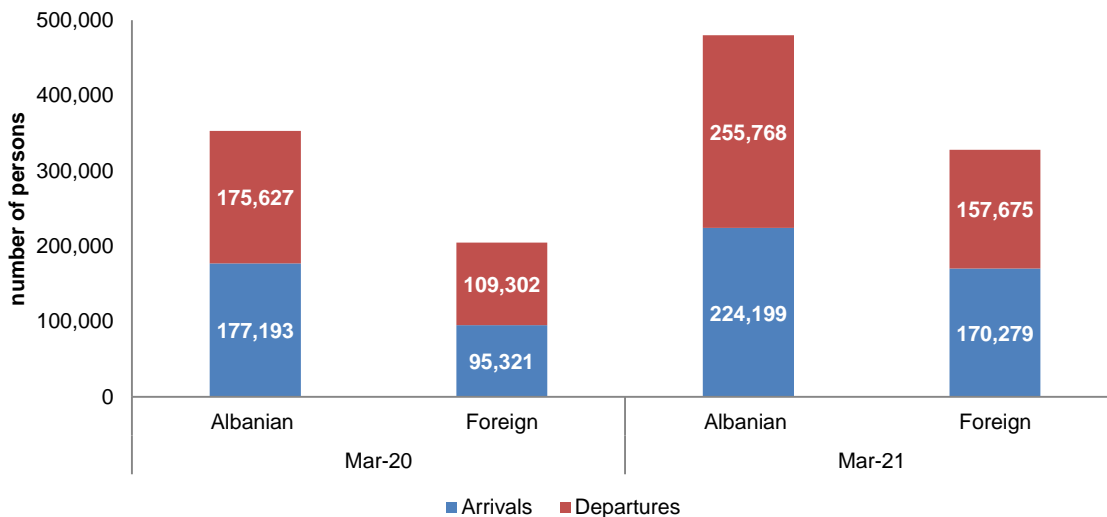
March 2021

Tirana, 23 April 2021: Arrivals of Albanian and foreign citizens to the territory of Albania, in February 2021 are 394,478. Compared to March 2020, this indicator increased by 44,8 %. In March 2021, arrivals of foreign citizens to the territory of Albania are 170,279. Compared to March 2020, this number increased by 78.6 %. The change in the percentage of movement of citizens indicators are influenced by the pandemic measures imposed in March 2020.

The number of foreign citizen arrivals to the territory of Albania during the first quarter of 2021, is 513,781, increasing by 10.4 %, compared with the same period of 2020 (tab.1).

During the first quarter of 2021, among the countries with the highest inflows of citizens in Albania, Kosovo had the largest increase by 38.3 % and Switzerland by 9.8%, while the most significant decrease had Greece by 83.5 % and England by 70.5 %, compared with the same period of 2020 (tab.2).

Fig. 1 Movements of citizens in Albania



Albanian and foreign citizen's departures from the territory of Albania during March 2021 are 413,443 marking an increase by 45.1 %, compared to the same period of the previous year. Departures of Albanian citizens from the territory of Albania during March 2021 are 255,768. Compared to March 2020, this number has increased by 45.6 %. Departures of foreign citizens from the territory of Albania during March 2021 are 157,675. Compared to March 2020, this number increased by 44.3 % (tab.1).

The number of Albanian citizens leaving the territory of Albania during the first quarter of 2021 is 756,405 decreasing by 31,3 %, compared with the same period of 2020 (tab1).

Tab 1. Movements of Albanian and foreign citizens

Period	March 2020	March 2021	Annual change (%)	January- March 2020	January- March 2021	Annual change (%)
Total Arrivals	272,514	394,478	44.8	1,582,966	1,160,801	-26.7
Albanian	177,193	224,199	26.5	1,009,243	647,020	-35.9
Foreign	95,321	170,279	78.6	573,723	513,781	-10.4
Total Departures	284,929	413,443	45.1	1,767,352	1,235,731	-30.1
Albanian	175,627	255,768	45.6	1,100,290	756,405	-31.3
Foreign	109,302	157,675	44.3	667,062	479,326	-28.1

Tab 2. Arrivals of foreign citizens

Countries	March 2020	March 2021	Annual change (%)	January- March 2020	January- March 2021	Annual change (%)
Kosovo	29,174	82,493	182.8	177,454	245,367	38.3
North Macedonia	15,442	31,198	102.0	87,706	93,179	6.2
Greece	11,628	4,858	-58.2	88,477	14,600	-83.5
Italy	4,793	10,824	125.8	44,269	30,596	-30.9
United Kingdom	2,831	1,336	-52.8	14,491	4,282	-70.5
Montenegro	12,150	18,094	48.9	70,377	62,994	-10.5
Poland	260	313	20.4	1,337	802	-40.0
USA	1,369	2,008	46.7	8,646	5,765	-33.3
Spain	156	192	23.1	1,120	515	-54.0
Germany	4,890	2,598	-46.9	11,188	7,158	-36.0
Switzerland	374	732	95.7	3,234	4,293	32.7
Others	12,254	15,633	27.6	65,424	44,230	-32.4
Total	95,321	170,279	78.6	573,723	513,781	-10.4

Tab 3. Arrivals of foreign citizens by purpose

Period	March 2020	March 2021	Annual change (%)	January-March 2020	January-March 2021	Annual change (%)
Arrivals foreign citizens	95,321	170,279	78.6	573,723	513,781	-10.4
I. Personal	88,496	160,943	81.9	550,712	489,798	-11.1
1. Holidays, visit to relatives, health treatment, etc.	83,522	153,944	84.3	525,908	466,709	-11.3
2. Religious	17	17	0.0	90	85	-5.6
3. Tranzit	4,957	6,982	40.9	24,714	23,004	-6.9
II. Business and professional	6,825	9,336	36.8	23,011	23,983	4.2

Tab 4. Movements of citizens by mode of travel

Period	Total Arrivals			Total Departures		
	Air	Sea	Land	Air	Sea	Land
March 2020	38,304	10,956	223,254	38,323	8,514	238,092
March 2021	41,298	17,721	335,459	41,165	13,507	358,771
Annual change (%)	7.8	61.7	50.3	7.4	58.6	50.7
January- March 2020	251,434	59,996	1,271,536	266,913	78,286	1,422,153
January- March 2021	113,484	49,751	997,566	126,931	53,194	1,055,606
Annual change (%)	-54.9	-17.1	-21.5	-52.4	-32.1	-25.8

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).

An arrival 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, health treatment, etc.;
2. Religious;
3. Transit.

Visits for *Business category* include 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 June declare different citizenship at exit from it at the entrance, etc.