

# MOVEMENTS OF CITIZENS IN ALBANIA

January 2026

During January 2026, a total of 1,196,550 Albanian and foreign citizens entered the territory of the Republic of Albania. This represents an increase by 3.3% compared to January 2025.

At the same time, 1,343,073 Albanian and foreign citizens departed from the territory of the Republic of Albania, marking a decrease by -1.3% compared to the same period last year.

## Citizens' arrivals to Albania:

- Albanian citizens: 644,363 (increase by 7.8%)
- Foreign citizens: 552,187 (decrease by -1.5%)

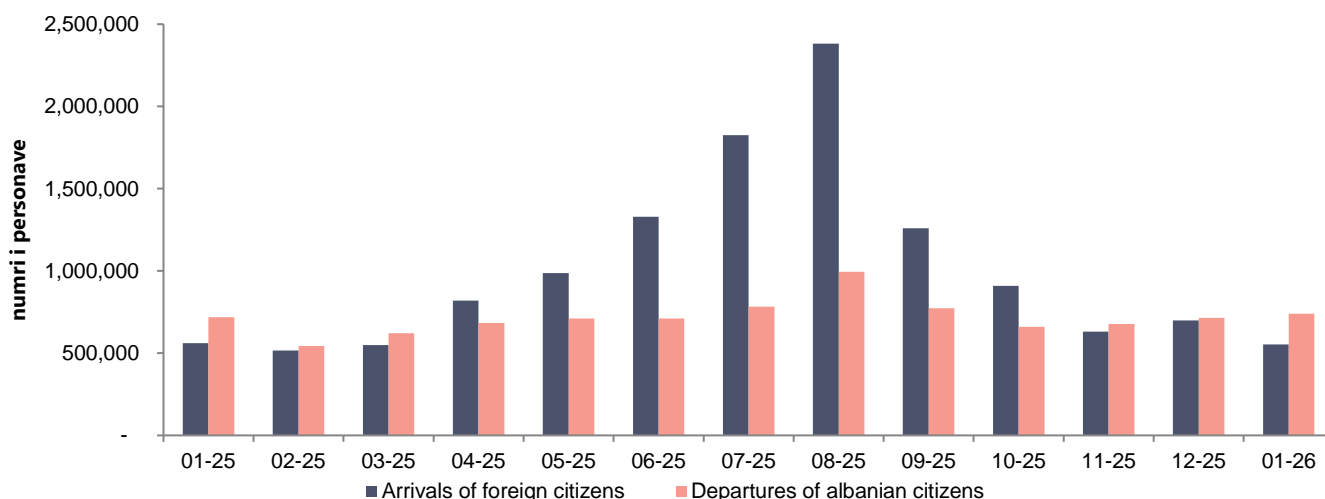
## Citizens' departures from Albania:

- Albanian citizens: 740,160 (increase by 3.1%)
- Foreign citizens: 602,913 (decrease by -6.2%)

## Regions of foreign citizens' arrivals:

- Southern Europe accounts for 88% and Western Europe for 6% of entries from Europe.

**FIG. 1 MOVEMENTS OF CITIZENS IN ALBANIA, JANUARY 2025-JANUARY 2026**



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

**TAB. 1 MOVEMENTS OF ALBANIAN AND FOREIGN CITIZENS**

Period	January 2025	January 2026	Annual change (%)
<b>Total arrivals</b>	<b>1,158,201</b>	<b>1,196,550</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Albanian	597,808	644,363	7.8
Foreign	560,393	552,187	-1.5
<b>Total departures</b>	<b>1,360,299</b>	<b>1,343,073</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
Albanian	717,698	740,160	3.1
Foreign	642,601	602,913	-6.2

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

**TAB. 2 ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN CITIZENS BY REGION**

Period	January 2025	January 2026
<b>Total</b>	<b>560,393</b>	<b>552,187</b>
<b>I. Africa</b>	<b>1,216</b>	<b>1,795</b>
<b>II. America</b>	<b>11,030</b>	<b>10,803</b>
<b>III. East Asia and Pacific</b>	<b>3,585</b>	<b>2,842</b>
<b>IV. Middle East</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>970</b>
<b>V. South Asia</b>	<b>2,087</b>	<b>2,361</b>
<b>VI. Europe</b>	<b>541,035</b>	<b>531,961</b>
- Central /Eastern Europe	19,548	15,729
- Northern Europe	15,036	14,219
- Southern Europe	471,395	470,070
- Western Europe	19,681	18,751
- East/ Mediterranean Europe	15,375	13,192
<b>VII. Other countries not specified</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>1,455</b>

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

The purpose of arrivals of foreign citizens in the Albanian territory, in 98% of cases, is for personal purposes. In January 2026, this indicator decreased by -1.4 % compared with January 2025. Arrivals of foreign citizens for business and professional purposes decreased by -5.7%

**Note to users:**

Detailed monthly and annual data by groups are available in INSTAT's statistical database: [Movement of Citizens in Albania](#) as well as in the tables section of the website under the topic: [Movement of Citizens](#)

# 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. Transit.

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:

[https://www.instat.gov.al/media/2940/revision\\_policy\\_2016.pdf](https://www.instat.gov.al/media/2940/revision_policy_2016.pdf)

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 December declare different citizenship at exit from it at the entrance. etc.