

# MOVEMENTS OF CITIZENS IN ALBANIA

May 2026

During May 2026, a total of 1,880,161 Albanian and foreign citizens entered the territory of the Republic of Albania. This represents an increase by 12.2 % compared to May 2025.

At the same time, 1,802,626 Albanian and foreign citizens departed from the territory of the Republic of Albania, marking an increase by 8.9 % compared to the same period last year.

## Citizens' arrivals to Albania:

- Albanian citizens: 736,566 (increase by 6.9 %)
- Foreign citizens: 1,143,595 (increase by 15.9 %)

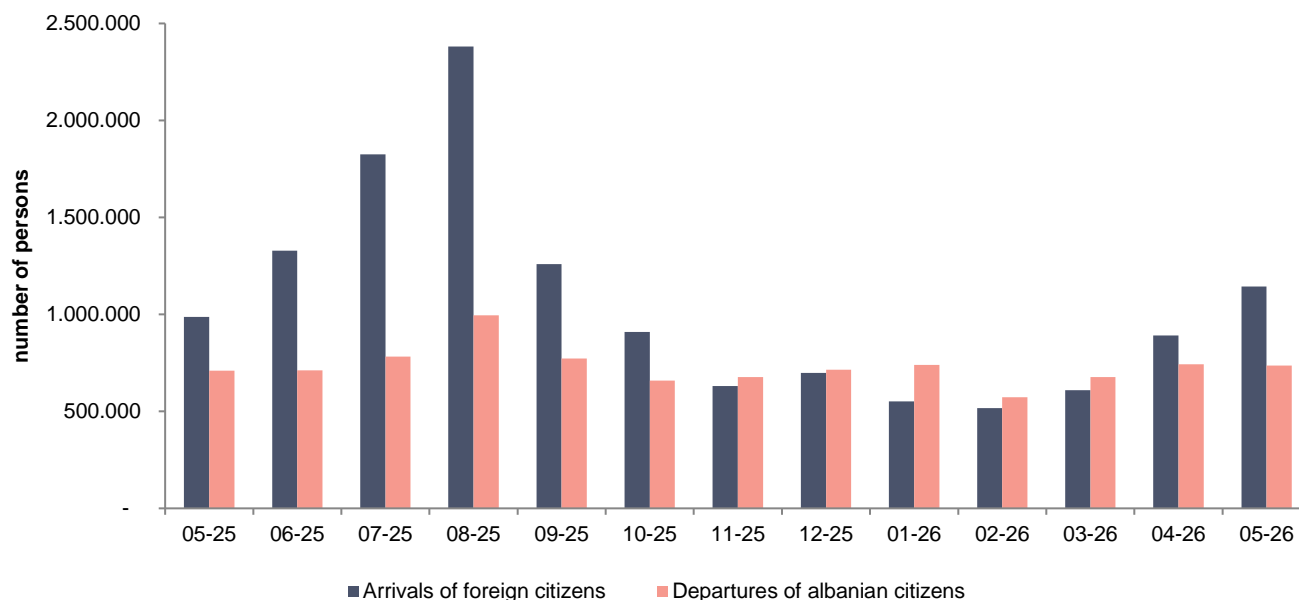
## Citizens' departures from Albania:

- Albanian citizens: 735,795 (increase by 3.6 %)
- Foreign citizens: 1,066,831 (increase by 12.9 %)

## Regions of foreign citizens' arrivals:

- Southern Europe accounts for 70 % and Western Europe for 12 % of entries from Europe.

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



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

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

Period	May 2025	May 2026	Annual change (%)	January-May 2025	January-May 2026	Annual change (%)
<b>Total arrivals</b>	<b>1,676,260</b>	<b>1,880,161</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>6,535,172</b>	<b>7,084,701</b>	<b>8.4</b>
Albanian	689,183	736,566	6.9	3,102,728	3,371,911	8.7
Foreign	987,077	1,143,595	15.9	3,432,444	3,712,790	8.2
<b>Total departures</b>	<b>1,655,286</b>	<b>1,802,626</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>6,750,493</b>	<b>7,121,069</b>	<b>5.5</b>
Albanian	710,115	735,795	3.6	3,277,376	3,468,368	5.8
Foreign	945,171	1,066,831	12.9	3,473,117	3,652,701	5.2

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

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

Period	May 2025	May 2026	January-May 2025	January-May 2026
<b>Total</b>	<b>987,077</b>	<b>1,143,595</b>	<b>3,432,444</b>	<b>3,712,790</b>
I. Africa	4,662	7,511	13,283	20,439
II. America	28,496	39,039	81,542	104,080
III. East Asia and Pacific	10,398	12,069	29,581	30,341
IV. Middle East	2,807	2,950	7,625	7,830
V. South Asia	4,821	10,627	16,893	28,431
VI. Europe	934,532	1,070,033	3,279,208	3,516,379
- Central /Eastern Europe	55,197	84,357	159,815	202,836
- Northern Europe	47,692	65,506	142,792	174,440
- Southern Europe	670,518	749,328	2,556,262	2,724,185
- Western Europe	126,282	129,340	309,214	309,803
- East/ Mediterranean Europe	34,843	41,502	111,125	105,115
VII. Other countries not specified	1,361	1,366	4,312	5,290

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 May 2026, this indicator increased by 16.4 % compared with May 2025. Arrivals of foreign citizens for business and professional purposes decreased by 5.6 %.

**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.