



27 July 2021
TOURISM DEMAND OF RESIDENTS
1st Quarter of 2021

TOURIST TRIPS ABROAD MADE BY RESIDENTS DECREASED BY 89.5%. DOMESTIC TRIPS DECLINED BY 53.3%

The pandemic context continued to severely affect tourist trips made by residents in the **1st quarter of 2021**, having been made 1.6 million trips, which corresponded to a variation of -57.6%¹ (-57.4% in the 4th quarter of 2020). This reduction was very significant with regard to domestic trips which, although concentrating 97.0% of the trips, decreased by 53.3%, but was even more intense in trips abroad, which declined by 89.5%.

In this quarter, the "visit to relatives or friends" was the main reason for travelling (750.7 thousand trips, -48.8%), having increased its representativeness (47.3% of the total, compared do 39.3% in the same quarter of the previous year). The reason "leisure, recreation or holidays" corresponded to 415.8 thousand trips (26.2% of the total, -14.6p.p.²), decreasing by 72.7%.

"Hotels and similar" concentrated 5.5% of overnight stays resulting from tourism trips in the 1st quarter of 2021, losing weight in the total (-15.7 p.p.). "Free private accommodation" remained the main choice (88.7% of overnight stays, +14.8 p.p.).

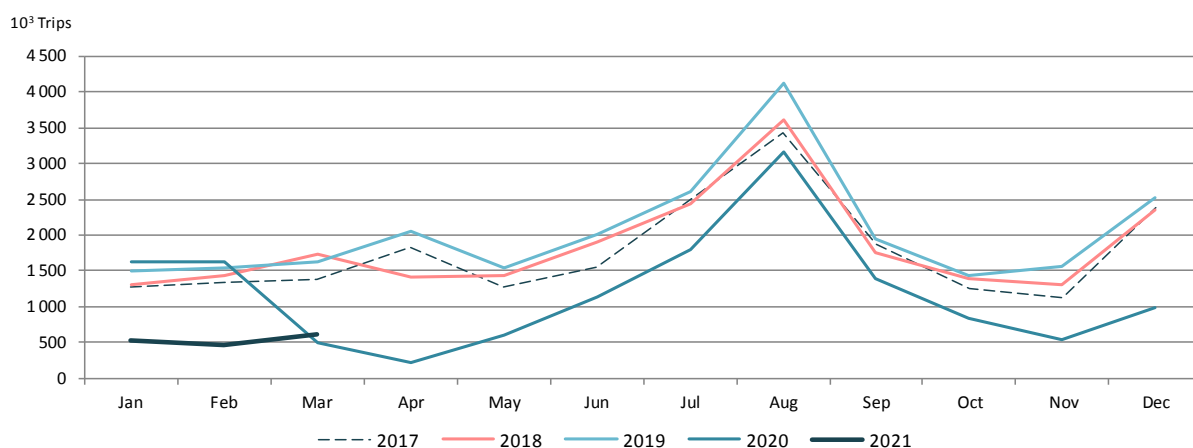
Significant decrease in the number of trips in the quarter

In the **1st quarter of 2021**, residents in Portugal took 1.6 million trips, corresponding to a decrease of 57.6% (-57.4% in the 4th quarter of 2020), feeling the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The year-on-year rates of change concerning the pre-pandemic months of January and February were -67.9% and -71.8%, respectively. In March, in which year-on-year rates of change already focus on the first month of 2020 when the pandemic began to make itself felt strongly in Portugal, there was the first increase in the last twelve months: +23.9% (-42.6%, -65.2% and -61.2%, in October, November and December, respectively), exclusively due to domestic trips.

¹ Unless stated otherwise, the rates of change referred in this press release are year-on-year rates of change.

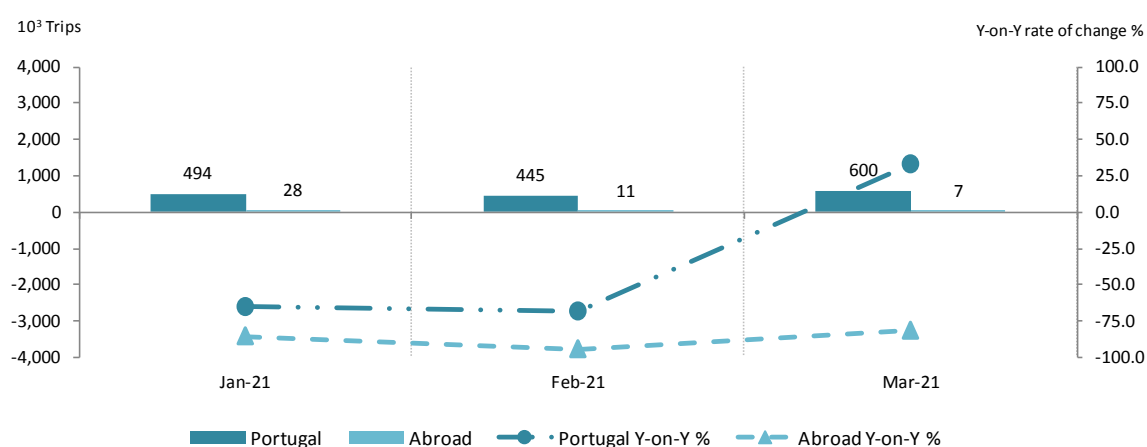
² Figures relate to year-on-year quarters.

Figure 1. Tourism trips of residents by month



In the **1st quarter of 2021**, domestic trips corresponded to 97.0% of the trips made (97.4% in the 4th quarter 2020), registering a decrease of 53.3% (-53.2% in the 4th quarter of 2020) compared with the same period last year (rates of change of -65.5% in January, -68.5% in February and +32.9% in March). Tourism trips abroad represented 3.0% of the total (2.6% in the 4th quarter of 2020), corresponding to 46.8 thousand trips (-89.5% year-on-year; -90.3% in the 4th quarter of 2020) with decreases of 85.6%, 94.5% and 81.8% respectively in January, February and March.

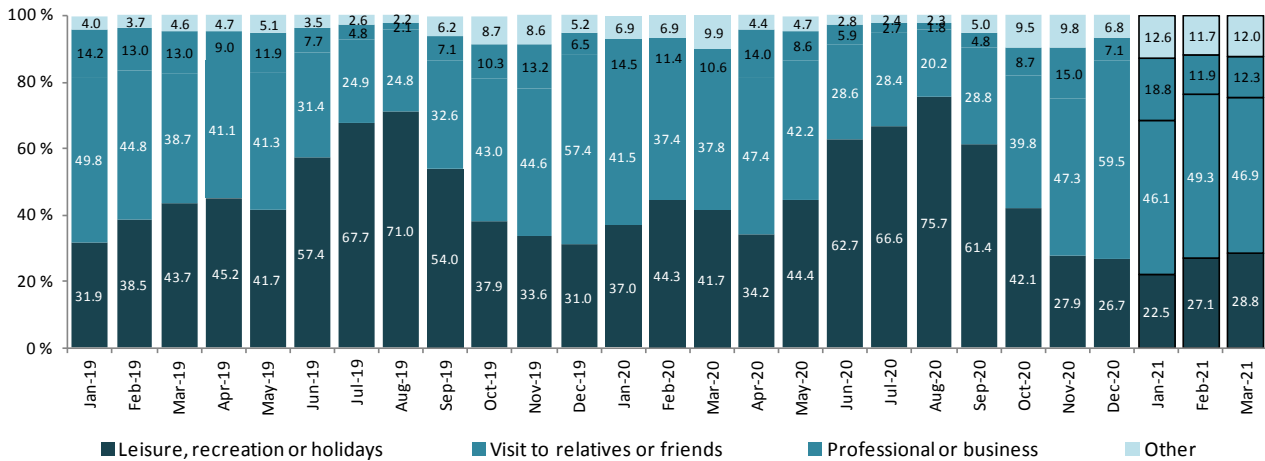
Figure 2. Tourism trips and year-on-year rate of change by destination, by month



Like the outcome in the 4th quarter of 2020, "visit to relatives or friends" was the main motivation for travel in the **1st quarter of 2021**, having corresponded to 750.7 thousand trips (-48.8% compared to the same period of the previous year; -57.7% in the 4th quarter of 2020), with its representativeness corresponding to 47.3% of the total (+8.1 p.p. compared to the 1st quarter of 2020). "Leisure, recreation or holidays" as a motivation to travel corresponded to 415.8 thousand of the trips made (-72.7%), representing 26.2% of the total (-14.6 p.p.

compared to the 1st quarter of 2020). Trips for "professional or business" reasons (227.3 thousand) increased by 1.7 p.p. their relative weight in the 1st quarter of 2021 (14.3% of the total).

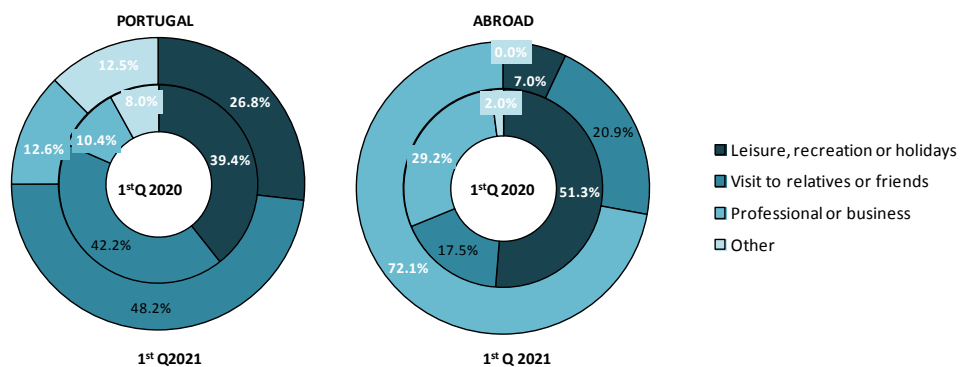
Figure 3. Breakdown of trips according to the main purposes, by month



Travels for "professional or business" reasons have increased their relevance in trips abroad

In the 1st quarter of 2021, "visit to relatives or friends" as a motivation to travel was associated with most domestic trips (741.0 thousand), corresponding to 48.2% of the total, whereas most trips abroad were taken for "business or professional" reasons (33.8 thousand trips; 72.1% share; 29.2% in the 1st quarter of 2020). "Leisure, recreation or holidays" as a reason to travel lost preponderance in both domestic (second main reason, 26.8% share; -12.6 p.p. compared to the same period in 2020), and trips abroad (third main reason, 7.0% share; -44.3 p.p.).

Figure 4. Breakdown of trips according to purpose, by destination



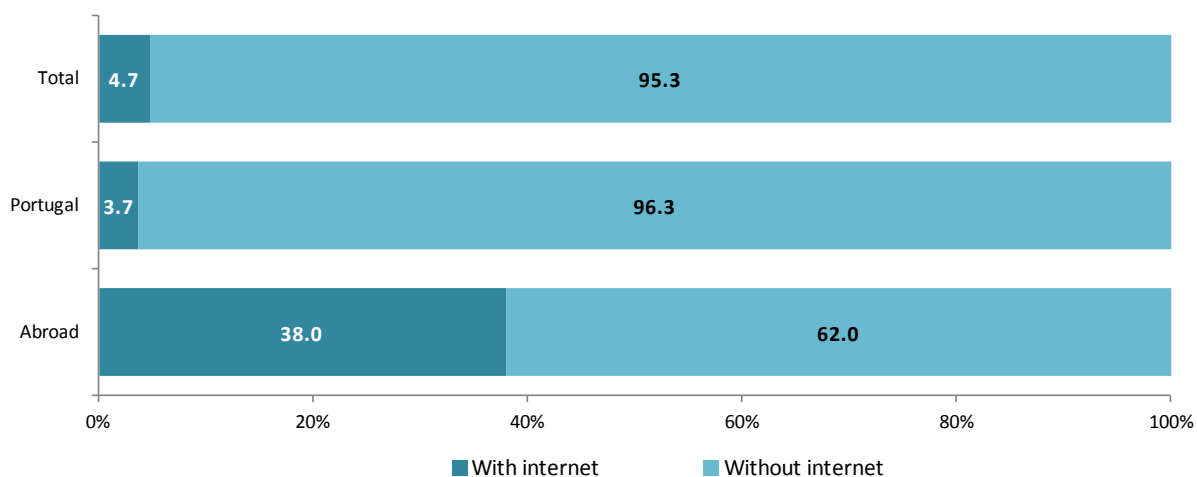


The use of the Internet to organise trips with great loss of expression

In the **1st quarter of 2021**, 9.7% of the trips were made through booking of services (-24.3 p.p.) reaching 69.5% (-21.9 p.p.) in the case of trips abroad. In domestic trips, booking of services was used in 7.9% of the trips (-18.4 p.p.).

The Internet was used to plan 4.7% of the trips (-20.9 p.p.), the lowest value in recent years, having been an option in 38.0% (-38.2 p.p.) of trips abroad and 3.7% (-15.1 p.p.) of domestic trips.

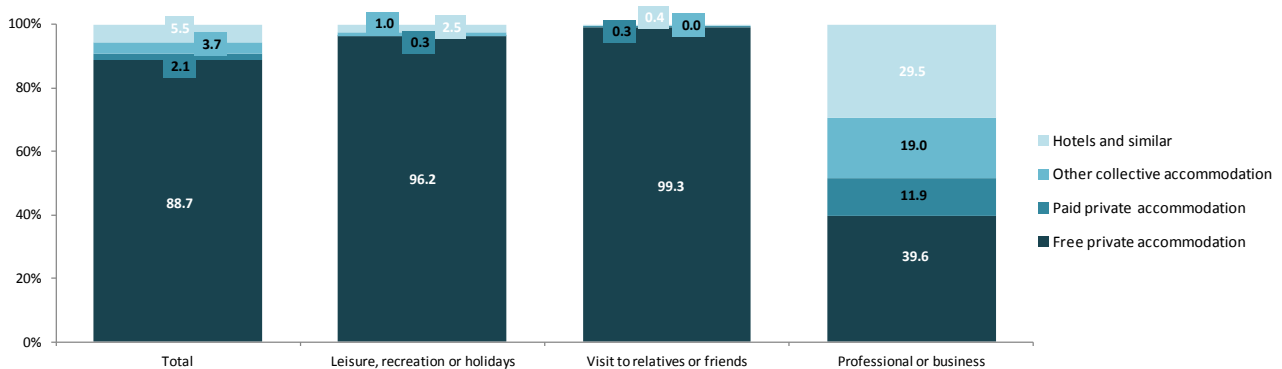
Figure 5. Breakdown of trips according to the use of the internet, by destination, 1st Q 2021



In a scenario of reduced overnight stays, the relative weight of "free private accommodation" increased while "hotels and similar" decreased

In trips taken in the **1st quarter of 2021**, the relative weight of overnight stays in "Hotels and similar" establishments decreased by 15.7 p.p., to 5.5% of the total. "Free private accommodation" remained the main accommodation option (88.7% of overnight stays), increasing its weight by 14.8 p.p..

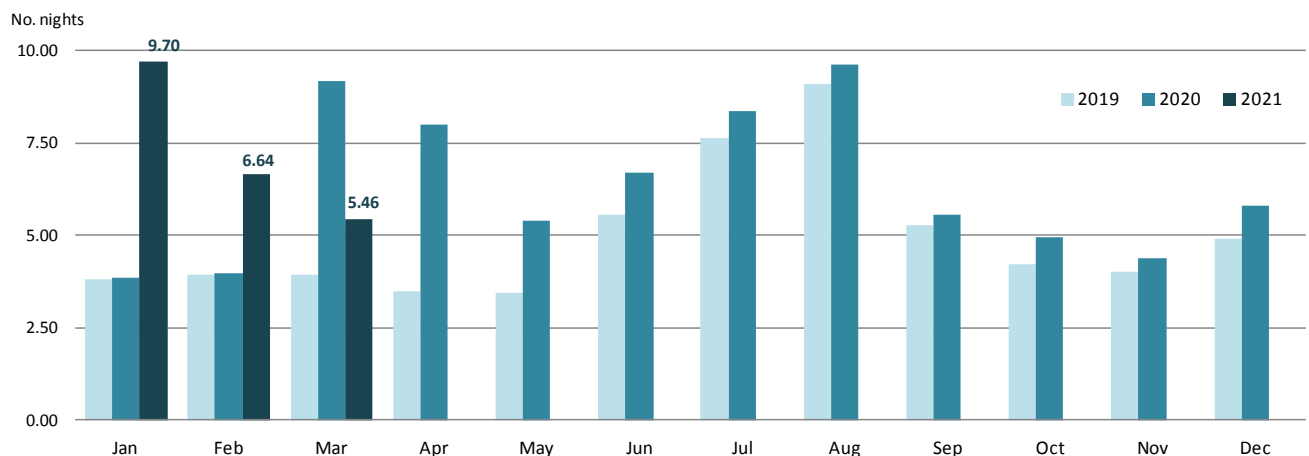
Figure 6. Breakdown of overnight stays by type of accommodation, according to main purposes, 1st Q 2021



The average number of overnight stays per tourist increased in the quarter

In the 1st quarter of 2021, each resident tourist spent, on average, 7.16 nights during the tourism trips made (+53.0%). The highest average stay was observed in trips made in January (9.70 nights).

Figure 7. Overnight stays spent by tourist during trips, by month

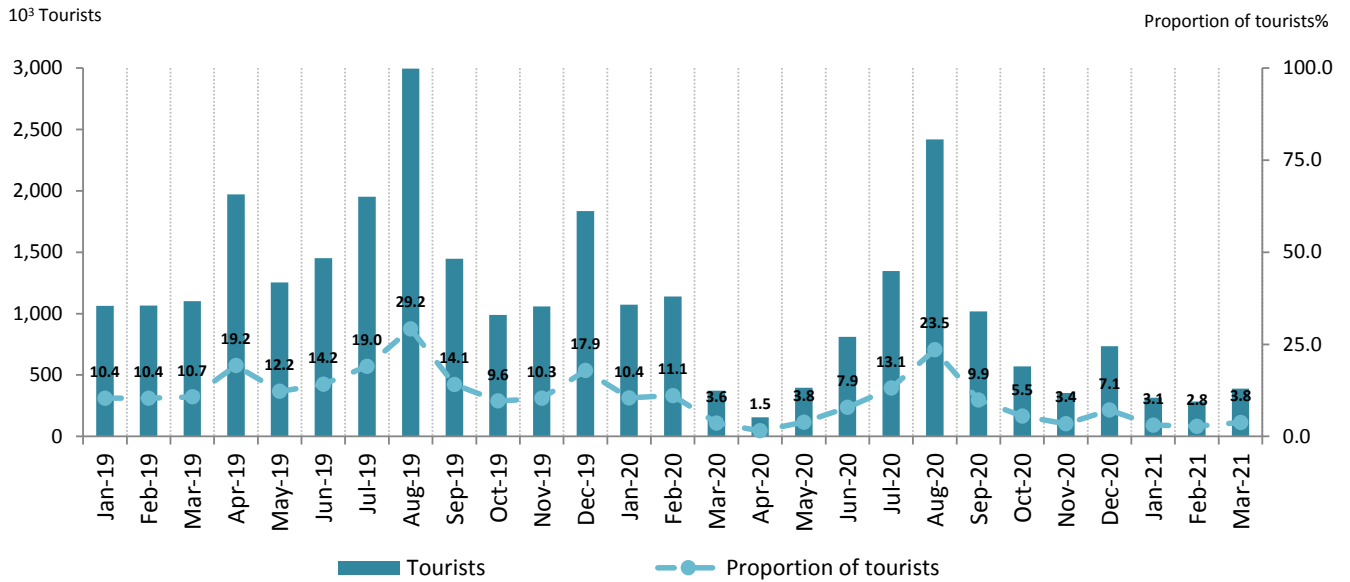


Proportion of tourists in the population with a high decrease in the quarter

In the 1st quarter of 2021, 6.1% of the resident population made at least one tourism trip, corresponding to an 11.4 p.p. decrease compared to the same period of the previous year.

In March, the highest proportion of residents who travelled (3.8%) was recorded. March was also the only month when such proportion increased vis-à-vis the same period of the previous year (+0.2 p.p.; -7.4 p.p. in January and -8.3 p.p. in February).

Figure 8. Proportion of tourists in the resident population, by month





METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

Results from the “Travel survey of residents” are gathered from surveying a sample of housing units, with a 50% rotation at the beginning of each year, with a quarterly telephone interview.

Results in this Press Release are:

Until 2020 – final data

2021 – provisional data

Main concepts

Tourist - Traveller staying at least one night in a private or collective accommodation site in a particular place, regardless of the motivation to travel.

Tourism trip - A trip to one or multiple tourist destinations, including the returning trip to the starting point and covering the whole period during which an individual remains outside its usual living environment.

Usual living environment - Environment in the proximity of an individual’s residence, concerning its working and studying places, as well as other places frequently visited. Distance and frequency are two closely related dimensions to this concept and include the places located near the place of residence, regardless of how often visited and the places located at a considerable distance of the place of residence (including those in a foreign country), frequently visited (once or several times per week on average) on a routine basis.

One individual has only one usual living environment, with the concept applied on both levels of domestic tourism and international tourism.

Hotels and similar – Tourist accommodation establishments whose main economic activity consists of the provision of accommodation services and other complementary or support services, with or without provision of meals, in exchange for payment.

Other collective accommodation – Establishments, places or facilities providing accommodation services to tourists mostly in exchange for payment including camping sites, holiday camps, youth hostels, collective means of transportation, working or holiday projects, amongst others.

Free private accommodation – Accommodation used by tourists consisting of a second residence or provided by relatives or friends, for free.

Paid private accommodation – Private accommodation, with or without official licensing for the provision of tourist accommodation, having available a limited number of paid independent places (rooms or housing).

Date of next Press Release – 27th of October 2021
