



28 October 2024  
TOURISM DEMAND OF RESIDENTS  
2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024

## TRIPS TAKEN BY RESIDENTS CONTINUED TO DECREASE IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2024

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024, trips made by residents in Portugal fell by 13.4%<sup>1</sup> (following -7.8% in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024), totalling 4.9 million. Trips within Portugal fell by 15.4% to 4.1 million (83.7% of total trips), while trips abroad recorded their first decrease since the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 (-1.5%), totalling 799.9 thousand (16.3% of the total).

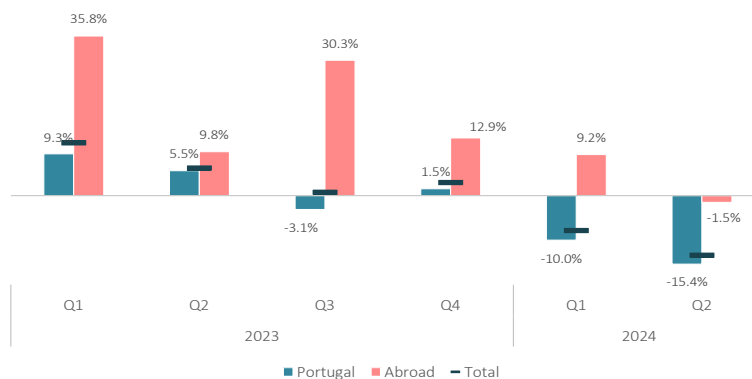
Reversing the pattern of the previous quarter, the main reason for travelling in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024 was ‘leisure, recreation or holidays’, which accounted for around 2.4 million trips made by residents (49.0%, +0.6 p.p.<sup>2</sup> compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023). The second main reason was ‘visit to relatives or friends’, which led to 1.9 million trips (38.4% of the total, +0.6 p.p. compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023).

‘Hotels and similar establishments’ accounted for 26.4% of overnight stays (4.6 million) resulting from tourist trips made by residents in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024. This share was surpassed by “free private accommodation,” which remained the main accommodation option (58.3% of overnight stays), hosting 10.1 million overnight stays during trips made by residents.

The Internet was used in 30.0% of the situations (+4.4 p.p.) when organising trips, with this resource being an option in 67.6% of trips abroad (+2.8 p.p.) and 22.7% of those made in Portugal (+3.6 p.p.).

Regarding the results presented in this press release, it should be noted that they were influenced by the moving structure of the calendar, i.e. the effect of the holiday period associated with Easter, which in the previous year was concentrated in April (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter), while this year it was spread between March (1<sup>st</sup> quarter) and April (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter).

Figure 1. Year-on-year change (%) in resident trips by destination, quarterly



<sup>1</sup> Unless stated otherwise, the rates of change in this press release refer to year-on-year rates of change.

<sup>2</sup> When analysing proportions, a year-on-year comparison between quarters is carried out.



### Residents' trips decreased in both destinations

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024, trips made by residents in Portugal continued the downward trajectory that began in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024, -13.4% (-7.8% in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024), totalling 4.9 million. This result was due to the decrease in both domestic trips (-15.4%; -10.0% in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024) and abroad (-1.5%; +9.2% in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024), with the latter recording their first decrease since the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021.

The number of trips fell in April and May (-36.7% and -2.7%, in the same order), but increased in June (+4.4%).

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024, residents took 4.1 million trips in Portugal, which accounted for 83.7% of all trips (86.6% in the previous quarter), and 799.9 thousand trips abroad, which accounted for 16.3% of the total (13.4% in the preceding quarter).

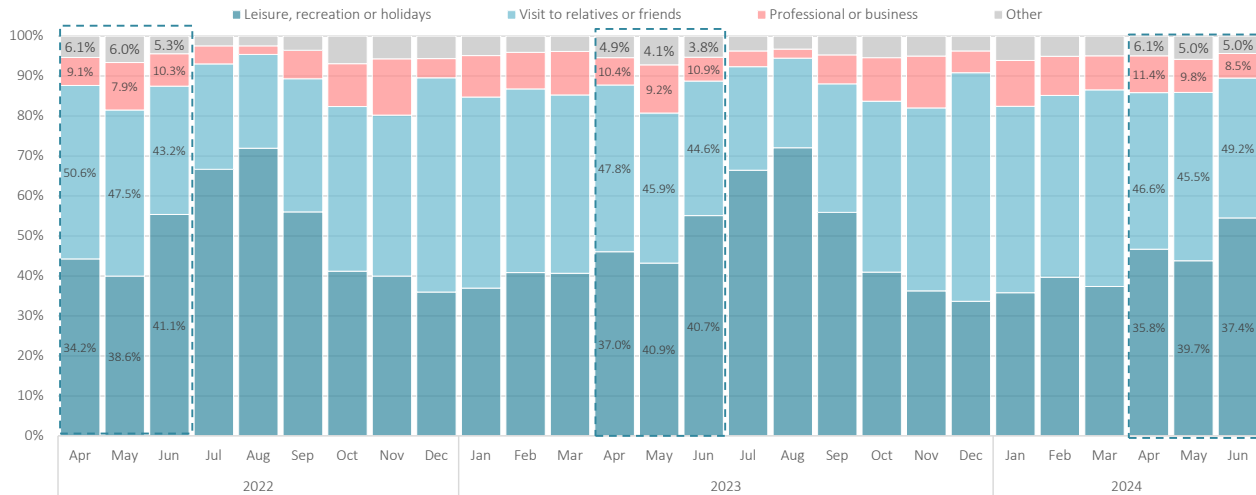
Table 1. Tourism trips by destination, by month

Unit: 10<sup>3</sup>

MONTH	Total (No)			Total Portugal (No)			Total Abroad (No)		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
<b>Total</b>	<b>22 627</b>	<b>23 668</b>	<b>9 372</b>	<b>19 969</b>	<b>20 440</b>	<b>7 973</b>	<b>2 657</b>	<b>3 228</b>	<b>1 399</b>
January	1 373	1 570	1 288	1 275	1 423	1 168	97	148	119
February	1 538	1 781	1 497	1 401	1 529	1 278	137	252	219
March	1 431	1 502	1 689	1 261	1 352	1 427	170	150	262
April	1 972	2 177	1 378	1 666	1 873	1 119	306	304	259
May	1 456	1 546	1 505	1 282	1 334	1 276	174	212	229
June	1 901	1 933	2 017	1 641	1 636	1 704	260	297	312
July	2 565	2 523		2 294	2 192		271	330	
August	3 614	3 685		3 206	3 136		408	548	
September	1 778	1 806		1 549	1 502		229	305	
October	1 270	1 297		1 103	1 130		167	166	
November	1 350	1 266		1 188	1 080		161	187	
December	2 381	2 583		2 103	2 252		278	331	

As in the same period last year, 'leisure, recreation or holidays' remained the main motivation for travel in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024, accounting for 2.4 million trips (-12.2%), which represented 49.0% of the total (+0.6 p.p. compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023). 'Visit to relatives or friends' also recorded a decrease, -12.1%, which resulted from 1.9 million trips (38.4% of the total, +0.6 p.p. compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023). Trips for 'professional or business' reasons fell by 16.8%, totalling 375.0 thousand trips, corresponding to 7.7% of the total (-0.3 p.p. compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023).

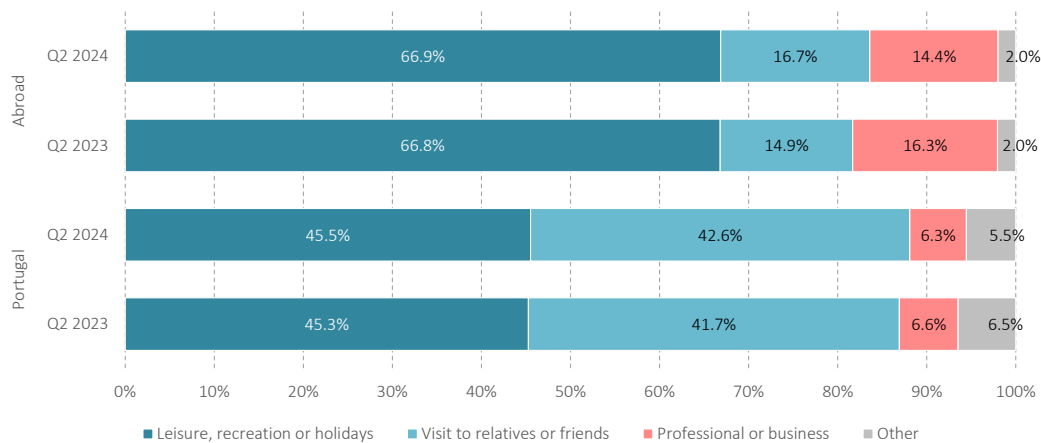
Figure 2. Breakdown of trips according to the main purposes, by month



**‘Leisure, recreation or holidays’ was the main reason for trips both within Portugal and abroad**

In the **2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024**, ‘leisure, recreation or holidays’ was the main reason for residents to travel, within the country (45.5% of domestic trips, 1.9 million) and abroad (66.9% relative weight, 535.0 thousand trips). The second main reason for travelling was ‘visit to relatives or friends’, accounting for 42.6% of all domestic trips (1.7 million) and 16.7% of trips abroad (133.8 thousand). ‘Professional or business reasons’ were the third main reason for residents to travel, both for domestic trips (6.3% of the total; 259.7 thousand) and trips abroad (14.4%; 115.3 thousand).

Figure 3. Breakdown of trips according to purposes, by destination

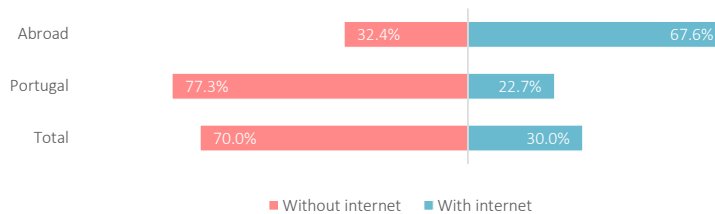


### Prior booking of services gained stronger significance in residents' trips, in both domestic and abroad destinations

Prior booking of services was used in 43.1% of trips taken by residents in the **2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024** (+5.5 p.p.), being dominant in trips abroad (94.2%; +2.9 p.p.), unlike domestic trips, where it was used in only 33.1% (+4.5 p.p.).

The Internet was used in 30.0% of the situations (+4.4 p.p.) when organising trips, with a greater share in organising trips abroad (67.6% of the total, +2.8 p.p.) than in domestic trips, where the use of this resource accounted for 22.7% of the total (+3.6 p.p.).

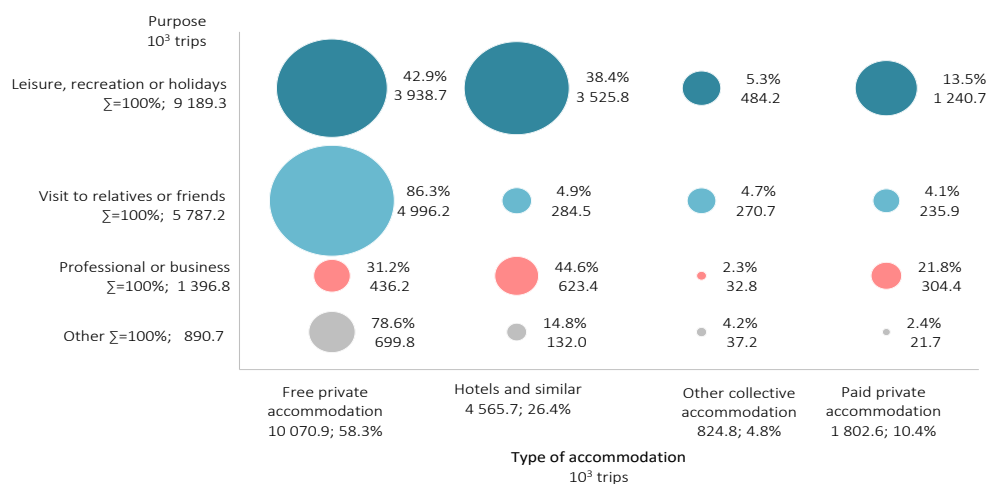
Figure 4. Breakdown of trips according to the use of the internet, by destination, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024



### 'Free private accommodation' remained the main option for trips motivated by 'visit relatives or friends', as well as for 'leisure, recreation or holidays'

In the **2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024**, 'free private accommodation' remained the main accommodation option (58.3% of the total), hosting 10.1 million overnight stays for residents' trips. This type of accommodation was most prevalent in trips motivated by 'visit to relatives or friends' (86.3% of the total) and in trips for 'leisure, recreation or holidays' (42.9%). 'Hotels and similar' were the second main accommodation option, accounting for 26.4% of overnight stays (4.6 million). This type of accommodation was the main choice for overnight stays on trips for 'professional or business reasons' (44.6%) and was the second choice for overnight stays on trips for 'leisure, recreation or holidays' (38.4%).

Figure 5. Breakdown of overnight stays by type of accommodation, according to main purposes, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024

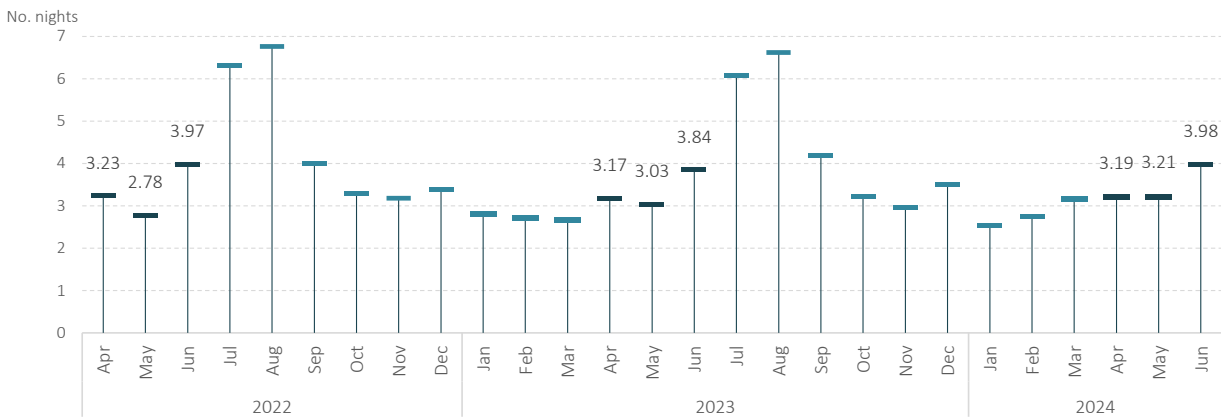




The average trip duration in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024 was slightly above the levels of 2023

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024, each trip had an average duration of 3.52 nights (3.36 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023). The longest average duration was recorded in June (3.98 nights, 3.84 nights in June 2023), and the lowest occurred in April (3.19 nights; 3.17 in April 2023).

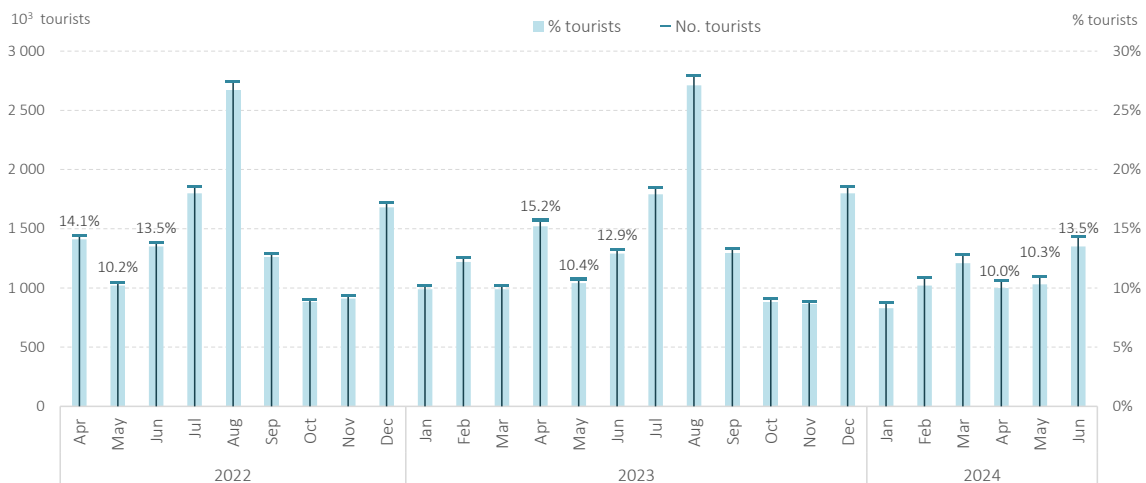
Figure 6. Average trip duration, by month



The proportion of tourists in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024 decreased when compared to the same period in 2023

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2024, 21.9% of residents took at least one tourist trip, i.e., 2.7 p.p. lower than in the same period last year. Monthly, the proportion of residents who travelled decreased in April and May (-5.2 p.p. and -0.1 p.p., respectively), but increased in June (+0.6 p.p.).

Figure 7. Proportion of tourists in the resident population, by month





## METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

The statistical findings 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.

The results in this Press Release are:

Up until 2023 – final data

2024 – 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 his 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, as well as the places situated at a considerable distance from 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, a concept applied to domestic and international tourism.

**Hotels and similar** - Tourist accommodation establishments whose main economic activity consists of providing accommodation services and other complementary or support services, with or without the 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** – A private accommodation, with or without official licensing for the provision of tourist accommodation, having a limited number of paid independent places (rooms or housing).

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**Date of next Press Release** – 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2025

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